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Some 100,000 people gather at Tel Aviv's Kikar Yitzhak Rabin last night to mark the first anniversary of his assassination there. (Reuters)

Netanyahu suspends Shahor as negotiator

Decision a scandal and embarrassment - Peres

OPPOSITION leader Shimon Peres yesterday called Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's decision to suspend Maj-Gen. Oren Shahor as top negotiator for civilian affairs with the Palestinians, because he met with Peres and Yossi Beilin, "an unprecedented scandal and embarrassment."

Blaming the government for creating "divisions and hatred" among the people, Peres said his meetings with Shahor were informal and did not require government approval.

"This is an unprecedented scandal and shame," Peres said on Israel Radio. "This government breaks all the norms of a democratic country... General Shahor is an honest man. He did not meet me to give me information. I do not need information."

Netanyahu spokesman David Bar-Ilan said yesterday that Shahor's suspension would not harm the negotiations since "Shahor was anyway dealing with the civilian package and that is not on the agenda, because it has already been resolved."

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai indefinitely suspended Shahor after consultations with Netanyahu and following a meeting with Shahor late Thursday to hear his version of events. Mordechai said Shahor would be able to continue in his role as government coordinator of activities in the territories.

The suspension is to remain in effect until an inquiry into Shahor's meetings with Peres and Beilin is completed.

Shahor, who was appointed by the late Yitzhak Rabin, is reportedly considering contesting his suspension in the High Court of Justice. He said his meetings with the Labor Party leaders were on a friendly basis, and denied he was passing on classified information to the opposition.

Those close to Shahor said the general was disheartened by the whole affair, because he feels he did no wrong and still did not get the backing he expected from the government. Shahor told Mordechai he did not agree with the decision, since it left him in an ambiguous position, sources close to Shahor said.

"He said either they trust him and keep him on as a major-general and let him remain in his negotiating role, or relieve him of his duties completely," said one source. "He told the minister that taking him out of the negotiations at this stage was suicidal and a mistake."

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN, LIAT COLLINS, and SARAH HONIG

He doesn't believe he has done anything wrong. Of course, he has something to say about all this, but he is so far from being given permission to speak," another source said.

"He feels the whole affair is completely hypocritical. He expected backing from the government and instead they suspended him."

As a member of the IDF General Staff, Shahor is subordinate to the minister of defense. In fact, in the past, his position has been filled by civilians. His term is slated to end in February and he does not intend on resigning beforehand, those close to Shahor said.

Meanwhile, the National

Religious Party praised the prime minister's decision to suspend Shahor from the negotiating team. "We're talking about a reasonable decision, which could not have been avoided," said MK Hanan Porat.

Labor faction chairman Ra'anan Cohen blasted the decision, saying: "Netanyahu is acting like a suspicious, paranoid dictator who aims at gradually destroying democracy and placing the opposition beyond the consensus."

Cohen said the faction would meet to discuss "ways of responding to this miserable decision. The whole faction denounces it as scandalous."

Likud MK Yehoshua Matza, chairman of the party's secretariat, said the meetings were aimed at sabotaging the diplomatic negotiations and efforts to reach a better agreement than the Oslo Accords.

"These meetings are the continuation to Peres's other meetings with the heads of Arab states and Palestinians aimed at thwarting the success of the negotiations. Hypocrisy and undermining have characterized Peres's political career. He finds it convenient to forget that under a government he belonged to, scores of officers were forced to undergo polygraphs to prevent information from reaching the opposition of the time."

Coalition chairman MK Michael Eitan argued yesterday that the Labor Party leadership is engaged in a coverup of its own in getting Shahor into trouble. "As Eitan sees it, 'Labor's hysterical reactions only underscore the impression that the party leaders' frequent get-togethers with Shahor were not innocuous meetings devoid of subversion.'"

The very fact, according to Eitan, that "Labor had unleashed an all-out acerbic campaign against the prime minister on this matter is intended to cover up the party's own part in tripping up the general." Former prime minister Yitzhak Shamir opined yesterday that the "trouble began with the very fact that Oren Shahor was allowed to stay in the sensitive position of a highly placed negotiator. He was far too closely associated with Labor and identified with its political outlook for him to have remained in one of the most delicate, key positions of a new administration with a different ideology and outlook."

Communications Minister Limor Livnat doubted that repeated visits late at night to the homes (Continued on Page 2)

Sarid: I met Mordechai when he was in IDF

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

MERETZ Party leader Yossi Sarid said yesterday that he met with Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai when the latter was OC Northern Command. Sarid said their two-hour meeting, held when Sarid was in the opposition, was at Mordechai's initiative and they spoke of security-related issues.

"I think that Mordechai, being a reasonable man, felt perfectly fine when he met with me. However, Mordechai apparently thought it was not okay since he decided to suspend Maj-Gen. Oren Shahor over something that he himself did," Sarid said.

But Mordechai's spokesman, Avi Benyahu, said the minister said he had never met with Sarid as OC Northern Command. Mordechai said the only meeting he ever had with Sarid was held at Sarid's request following the 1984 bus No. 300 episode when he was a brigadier. The meeting took place at Sarid's house, Benyahu said.

Don't give up on peace, Leah Rabin tells rallygoers

MICHAL YUDELMAN

"DON'T give up on peace, for that is his legacy," urged Leah Rabin at the memorial rally in Kikar Rabin last night marking the anniversary of prime minister Yitzhak Rabin's assassination there last November 4.

More than 100,000 thronged to the square to honor Rabin's memory. The crowd overflowed onto the surrounding streets, which were closed to traffic, and posters saying "Shalom, haver" were hung from balconies. Police estimated that more people attended the rally last night than had ever assembled there before.

Above the stage hung large portraits of Rabin, and the words "Yitzhak Rabin - 1922-1995," lined with hundreds of memorial candles. People in the crowd held up placards and banners saying "Peace will avenge him," "Nationalist fascism leads to mass murder," "Peace is his legacy," and "We shall not forget."

Many shed a tear when Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo declared a minute's silence at 9:45, the exact time when the three shots rang out, two of which killed Rabin.

At the opening of the rally, Rabin's voice rang out eerily, in a recording from the peace rally at which he was murdered, saying "I must admit I'm moved." It was the prelude to a song against violence by Shlomo Gronich.

"Yitzhak, we are all here again, on Saturday night," Leah Rabin said. "Here in this square were your last, great moments of happiness. Moments in which you saw and heard the great support and love from all the people who filled

this square. You stood here a little embarrassed, incredulous, and at last you knew: there is support for peace."

"I thought in those dark days of all the candles and all the tears, that from this square will rise one great cry, one giant torch which will light for all of us the way to peace. The way you walked on almost alone, in the face of incitement, hostility, and horror. They called you a traitor. Whom did you betray? They called you a murderer. Whom did you murder? But the candles faded away, the flowers wilted. And only the pain and emptiness and loss remained," she said.

"You, Yitzhak, did not think that evening here, that you may not see the light and not reach the promised land - peace. You believed in your way, and that you would reach it. Let the sun rise, you sang, and the next day, when the sun rose, we awake without you."

"But we will arrive at the light and the promised land of peace which you dreamed of." Leah Rabin called on the huge audience to "raise the torch Yitzhak carried and continue onwards to the light. Move the wheels of peace forwards, until we are once again the state of Jews who want to live in peace and security in our region. Don't give up on peace, for that is his legacy."

Milo called Rabin "a hero of war and a hero of peace." He said the memorial unveiled

Friday on the spot where Rabin was murdered symbolizes the rift in the nation and will remain an eternal reminder "of his testament of peace, which is the legacy we must keep and carry out the way which will lead to peace."

The monument to Rabin was unveiled in Tel Aviv on Friday, on the spot where he was murdered by religious nationalist Yigal Amir.

It consists of massive basalt stones representing an earthquake, with an inscription "Peace is his legacy."

Milo said afterwards that it is unthinkable that the present government should not keep the agreements signed by the previous government.

A youth choir sang the "Song to Peace," the last song which Rabin sang before he was shot. The many singers who appeared included David Daor, Yanitza Avizi, Nurit Galron, Gidi Gov, Arkadi Duchin, Danny Robas, and finally, Aviv Gefen, who sang "To Cry For You," the song which came to symbolize more than anything else the mourning of the young generation for Rabin.

The Rabin family, former Tel Aviv mayor Shlomo Lahar, and one of the organizers of the peace rally at which Rabin was assassinated, US Ambassador Martin Indyk, and many public figures and dignitaries attended the gathering.

Sarah Honig adds: Likud youth will this afternoon hold a special memorial session at Metzudat Ze'ev in memory of Yitzhak Rabin. They will be addressed by Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon.

Ross likely to return after US vote

HILLEL KUTTLER and news agencies

ISRAEL and the Palestinian Authority are "very close to an agreement on Hebron" and the US would like to see it done before the Cairo economic conference starts next week, a senior administration official said.

The US's peace process team is likely to return to the region soon after Tuesday's elections to help in the final push to a deal, he said. Last night Chief of Staff Lt-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak and

Maj-Gen. Shaul Mofaz met with Palestinian negotiator Mahmoud Abbas, Channel 2 reported. The report said officials in Jerusalem expressed hope the sides could wrap up an agreement within three days, before the American elections.

State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns told reporters Friday that US special Middle East coordinator Dennis Ross would visit the region "probably late [this] week ... to take up again, in person, his conversation with the Israelis and Palestinians to try to bring to closure the Hebron redeployment discussions." (Continued on Page 2)

Security alert in response to Jihad threat

BILL HUTMAN

POLICE went on alert last night and roadblocks were set up around the country, after the security establishment received what was characterized as "concrete information on plans by the Islamic Jihad to carry out a terror attack."

In a joint statement, the police and Internal Security Ministry spokesmen said that "All the operational units of the Israel Police as of tonight are on emergency status, making the maximum amount of manpower available to foil possible terror attacks."

Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz met with senior officers, including the commanders of all police districts, to review the stepped-up security measures. It was not announced how long the measures would remain in effect.

In addition to the roadblocks, police presence is to be beefed up, in public places that might be likely targets for attack, the spokesmen said. "The police want to make clear that these measures are likely to make things difficult for computers, and there will no doubt be tie-ups on the highways and in the cities," they said in the statement.

Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani said, "We will do everything we can to minimize the possible discomfort to drivers, but we hope the public will view the measures we are taking with understanding."

Israeli wins under-16 world chess title

ALIK Gershon on Friday won the world chess championship for under-16 year olds, beating 69 national champions who vied for the crown. His victory is considered especially notable, after he won the world championship for under-14 year olds two years ago.

Gershon won the championship by a score of eight points out of a possible 11, without suffering a single loss. He maintained a place among the top three contenders throughout the competition.

A week ago Gershon played world champion Gary Kasparov in a round of simultaneous matches and fought him to a draw. When he is not competing, he plays in the national adult chess league for Hapoel Kfar Sava.

Jerusalem Post Staff

10 million US voters still undecided

WASHINGTON (AP) - Here it is, the weekend before the US election between President -Bill Clinton and Bob Dole and they still can't make up their minds.

"One day I think I'm going to vote for this one, and the next day I think I'll vote for that one," says Arlene Wormell of Petoskey, Michigan. "I'll go into the voting booth and then I'll decide."

All told, voters who still haven't made a choice in the presidential election on Tuesday number between 10 million and 12 million, maybe even more, pollsters say.

The undecided voters tend to be women who are middle aged and living on a tight budget. They lead busy lives and don't have much time to focus on politics. Their political views are moderate. If they do vote, they are most likely not to vote for Clinton.

In disproportionate numbers, the undecided are "Clinton Republicans" - voters who left the

Republican Party in 1992 to support Clinton but aren't all that pleased with what they got.

A lot of them simply won't vote at all, the experts say, and a larger percentage than in the public at large may be willing to give Ross Perot a try.

"Between 70 and 100 percent of them are going to end up voting for the challenger," Democratic pollster Mark Mellman said, explaining that in this case, the challenger is either Dole or Perot.

He explains: Usually when people say they really can't choose, "they're pretty sure they don't want to vote for the incumbent, but they're not sure they want to vote for the challenger."

"In the end, though, that's what they usually do." If people are undecided this close to the election, Mellman said, little things can tip them toward one candidate or another. "They don't have time to do the work of sifting through all the

information out there in the political environment," he said, and so they are influenced by a late piece of information - a newspaper endorsement or a TV commercial or something said by an interest group.

Although most presidential polls report an undecided core of 5 percent to 8% of voters, Mellman believes they more likely constitute 10% to 12%. To make their polls look meaningful, pollsters push respondents into a choice they may not stick with.

In 1992, when voters were interviewed as they left the polls, as many as 20% or 25% said they hadn't reached a decision until the week before the election.

Polls show Clinton lead between 3.8% and 18%, Page 4

No legal or ethical grounds for suspension, experts say

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

WHILE the IDF formally forbids generals from meeting with politicians without prior approval, legal experts said the suspension of Maj-Gen. Oren Shahor is undemocratic, unethical, and would likely be rejected if contested in the High Court of Justice.

Shahor is reportedly considering appealing his indefinite suspension to the High Court. Renowned legal expert Moshe Negbi said Shahor has grounds to contest the decision to remove him from his task as head of the team negotiating civilian affairs with the Palestinian Authority.

"It is true there are General Staff regulations which say any meeting between an officer or soldier with a politician requires the approval of his superiors. But I am not sure that these regulations meant for a total ban of every meeting, including those outside working hours and on all issues," Negbi said.

"Even if the regulations intended

in an encompassing way to ban even the drinking of a cup of tea between a soldier and a politician, I am not sure that this could stand up to a test in the High Court of Justice," Negbi said.

"A ban of meeting freely between people is a blow to their freedom of expression and their personal rights," Negbi added.

He noted that according to the law, meeting with a foreign agent is only illegal if it can be proven that it was done with the intention of harming state security.

Negbi said the basic law of the army defines the IDF as the army of the state, not the army of the government or the defense minister.

"It is true that Oren Shahor cannot receive instructions from Shimon Peres or Yossi Beilin, but it has not been proven that he was given instructions from them. The infor-

mation that [Shahor] holds, and it is important that this be stressed, is not the private property of the government, but information that the public has the right to know, as long as it does not include military secrets or information that could harm the security of the state," Negbi said.

Prof. Assa Kasher, who helped draft the IDF's ethical code, said military figures in positions like Shahor's are not strictly bound by IDF regulations regarding whom they can speak to since they need feedback from those holding a variety of opinions.

"There are unwritten norms that say a man in this kind of position of civil administration, who deals with political issues in the framework of negotiations, may want ideas or want to run notions by a variety of people in order to do his work better. I believe this norm is acceptable and that there is no ethical problem with it," Kasher told Israel Radio.

'Jane's': Israel developing advanced anti-armor weapon

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

ISRAEL has developed an advanced, new generation anti-armor weapon, believed to be code-named Spike, which is able to penetrate tanks and APCs fitted with top-of-the-line protection, Jane's Defence Weekly reports in its latest issue.

According to the London-based magazine, the Spike has a fire-and-forget capability and can also be fired at a target even if it cannot be seen by the launch position by

using a fiber optic data link. It is said to have pinpoint accuracy.

It also has a tandem, or double, high-explosive anti-tank warhead, so it can penetrate tanks and other armored vehicles equipped with explosive reactive armor (ERA).

IDF kills infiltrator trying to cross border from Jordan

IDF soldiers shot dead an unidentified man trying to cross the Jordan-Israel border near the settlement of Kfar Ruppin early yesterday, the army said.

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

fire, the army said. Israeli forces rushed to nearby settlements fearing it was an attempted terrorist attack and launched searches for more infiltrators. Jordanian forces cooperated with the IDF during the incident and are jointly investigating the infiltration, the army said.

Israel Radio, however, said the man was apparently headed toward Jordan when he was detected and killed. Last June, infiltrators ambushed an IDF patrol along the border, killing three soldiers and stealing their heavy weapons before fleeing. The Israeli brigade commander was removed from his post after it was found his forces were slow to react to the attack. Since the ambush, better combat-trained troops have been deployed along the border.

Flurry of diplomatic activity centers on Hebron talks

Primakov meets with Arafat, Hussein

RUSSIAN Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov met Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat in Gaza on Friday, after assuring Israel that Syria does not seek war.

Arafat returned to Gaza, via Egypt, after visiting several European capitals last week to seek help and support for the Palestinian stance in negotiations with Israel on IDF redeployment in Hebron.

"I explained to [the Europeans] the situation concerning the peace process and the obstacles... which are preventing the implementation of the signed agreement," Arafat said, referring to the 1995 Hebron deal with the Labor government.

Asked before beginning talks with Primakov if the Russian foreign minister's visit would help the Middle East peace process, Arafat replied: "No doubt."

In Jerusalem, US Ambassador to Israel Martin Indyk held an unscheduled meeting with Netanyahu

after the cabinet's weekly session, during which it discussed Hebron.

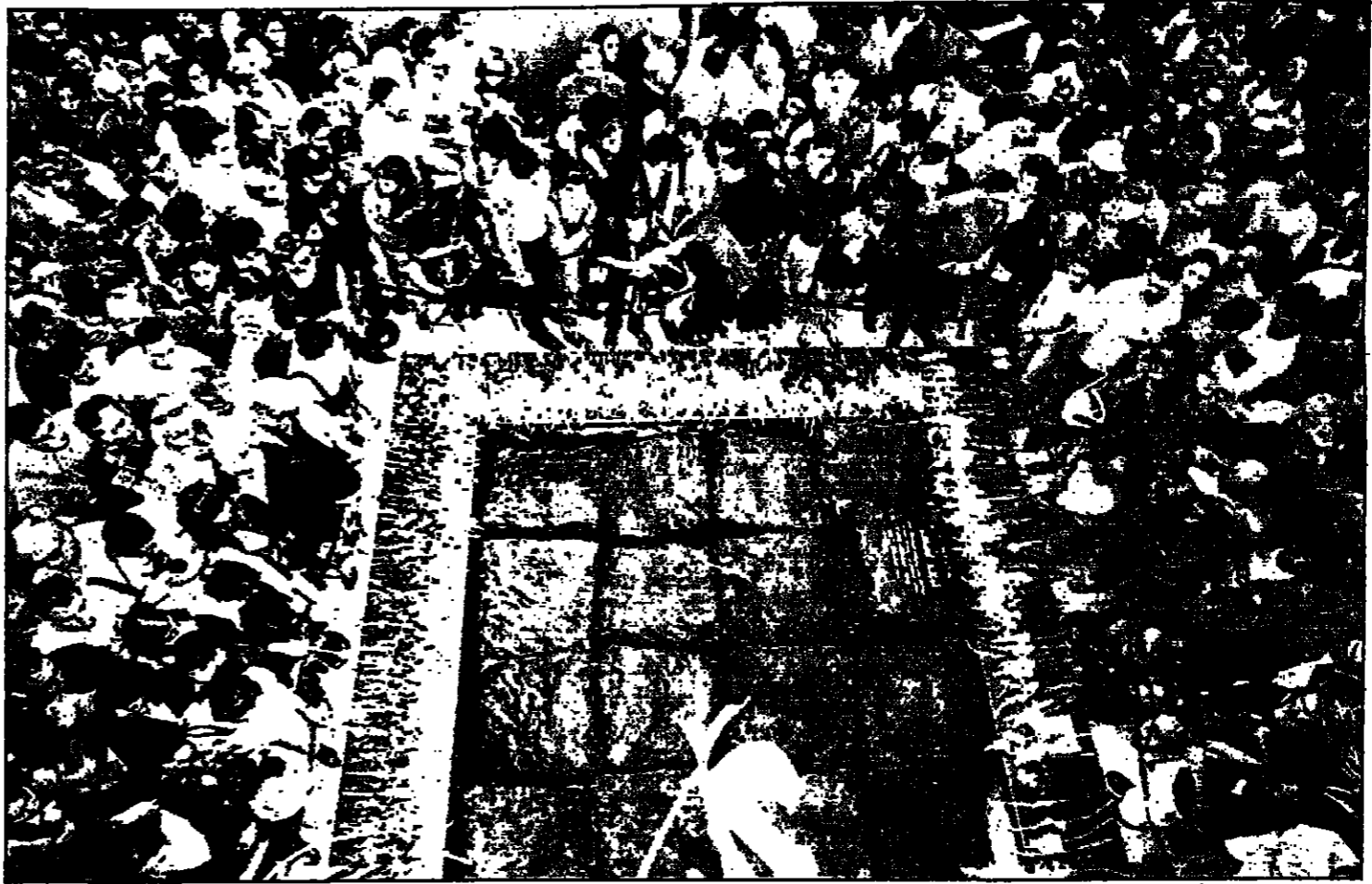
Before returning to Gaza, Arafat had briefed Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on his trip to Europe and the latest developments in Israeli-Palestinian negotiations, official sources said in Cairo.

Later on Friday, Primakov arrived in Amman and said he would discuss new proposals with King Hussein for breaking the logjam in Israeli-Palestinian peace talks.

"There are certain ideas, but I do not want to speak about them before I meet King Hussein," Primakov told reporters upon his arrival at Marka airport.

Primakov said his talks in Jordan were significant because of Jordan's important role in the peace process.

"My talks will cover the situation in the region," he said. (Renter)



People gather around the monument to prime minister Yitzhak Rabin after its unveiling Friday. The basalt stone memorial, on the spot where Rabin was murdered at the foot of Tel Aviv City Hall, bears the inscription 'Peace is his legacy.'

Decision postponed on extending Amir admirer's remand

THE Jerusalem Magistrate's Court on Friday decided to postpone ruling for a week on the district attorney's request to remand Arye Bar-Yoseph till the end of his trial on charges of incitement and sedition. Bar-Yoseph remains in detention at least until then.

Bar-Yoseph was indicted last week following an interview he gave to Channel 1, when he said among other remarks that, "Yigal Amir is a national hero" and revealed how he had rejoiced at prime minister Yitzhak Rabin's murder. According to the television station, many parts of the Bar-Yoseph interview were too unsuitable to be broadcast.

At Friday's hearing the prosecution said it would present the uncut interview tape as evidence. The full interview reportedly includes threats by Bar-Yoseph on Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, on judges, on members of the General Security Service, and on journalists. The prosecutor told the court that Bar-Yoseph's remarks were made "to arouse hatred, contempt, and mistrust for the state and its authorities on the part of the viewer."

Bar-Yoseph and two other Kiryat Arba residents were convicted of incitement, given four-month suspended sentences, and fined NIS 1,000 each by Jerusalem Magistrate's

Court last year for making statements to the media praising Baruch Goldstein, immediately after he committed the Machpela Cave massacre in 1994. Bar-Yoseph, Shmuel Ben-Yishai, and Amnon Tadmor called Goldstein "a hero," and "a righteous man."

Defense attorney Naftali Wertzberger opposed extending his client's remand. He argued that the television reporter had initiated the interview with Bar-Yoseph and had deliberately asked him provocative questions. He also pointed out that many people have expressed satisfaction with Rabin's murder without being arrested. (Tim)

Histadrut fires Hapoel Tel Aviv manager

THE Histadrut decided over the weekend to dismiss Hapoel Tel Aviv's manager, fire the soccer team's manager, Yuval Ron, and appoint an overseer to investigate its financial activities. Ron reportedly requested that he be dismissed. Histadrut Chairman MK Amir Peretz appointed Itche Menahem as the team's acting manager until a replacement is selected.

Peretz is expected to appoint a financial overseer today. Until one is appointed, only Histadrut Treasurer Shmuel Avital can approve

the team's expenditures.

Over the weekend, Peretz called an urgent meeting of the team's management to discuss a report from Avital that the team had accumulated a debt of more than NIS 5 million. This contradicted a previous report from Haim Goldner, who approves the team's expenditures, stating that the deficit totaled NIS 1m.

According to Avital's report, the 1995-6 debt totals NIS 2.4m, and the 1996-7 debt will run NIS 3.2m.

After the meeting, Peretz said he had lost faith in Ron and Goldner.

Four months ago, Goldner had told the Histadrut that the team's deficit was NIS 1m. Peretz then asked the Histadrut Parliament to cover this. However, Goldner recently requested Avital give the team an additional NIS 600,000. Avital denied the request and prepared a detailed report on the team's finances.

Attempts to sell Hapoel Tel Aviv to private investors are to continue, said Peretz. (Tim)

Alleged Israeli-recruited group uncovered in Lebanon

BEIRUT (AP) - Lebanese agents have arrested the leader of a five-man group allegedly recruited by Israel to destabilize Lebanon through assassinations and car bombings, court officials said yesterday.

Security forces stormed the house of Reess Joseph Maradan, 44, in Beirut's suburban Bury Hammoud district and confiscated documents allegedly showing his collaboration with the Mossad, the officials said. The officials refused to say when the raid took place or exactly what the documents contained.

Maradan faces charges of signing up four other Lebanese men for training in subversion in Israel, the

officials said. He is also alleged to have gathered information on Hizbullah. The four other men are at large and believed to have taken refuge in the security zone, the officials said.

A military magistrate will decide whether to press the charges. Conviction could carry the death penalty.

Ahmed Hallaq, a 43-year-old Lebanese Shi'ite Muslim, was executed by firing squad in September after he was accused of being a Mossad agent and convicted of masterminding a 1994 car-bombing in Beirut that killed three people.

Four killed on roads

FOUR people were killed and 11 injured in road accidents over the weekend.

An 11-year-old girl was killed and 11 people were injured in a two-car crash last night near the Golani Junction. One of the cars entered the road from a gas station and was hit by an oncoming car. The injured were brought to Ha'emek Hospital in Afula. Police are investigating the accident.

Menashe Basar, 28, of Dimona, was killed yesterday when he lost control of his motorcycle on a curve while on a descent to the Dead Sea and hit the guard rail. By the time a Magen David Adom team arrived he was already dead. Police on their way to the scene of the accident caught a 24-year-old Jerusalem man riding at 193 kph on a motorcycle.

Another motorcyclist was killed on the Rosh Ha'ayin-Ben Shemen road yesterday afternoon. The man, 50, was hit by a tow truck when he apparently veered out of his lane.

A 17-year-old boy was hit by a car and killed near the Nahariya Government Hospital while running away from the hospital, where he was to receive psychiatric treatment. His parents had brought him there from Haifa's Rambam Hospital. (Tim)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Hundreds protest on Rehov Bar-Ilan

Hundreds of haredim gathered on Jerusalem's Rehov Bar-Ilan yesterday to call for the street to be closed to traffic on Shabbat. Police prevented them from blocking traffic, but there were several stone throwing incidents. Two haredim who tried to block the street were detained for questioning.

The Zameret Committee is to deliver its recommendations on the issue to Transportation Minister Yitzhak Levy on Monday. (Tim)

Rifkind arrives this morning

British Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind arrives in Israel this morning, where he will meet with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Foreign Minister David Levy before traveling to Gaza to meet with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat. Rifkind reportedly plans to express his country's support for the peace process and investigate ways for it to become more involved in it, especially ways to help advance the PA's economy. On Tuesday Rifkind is to fly to Yemen. (Tim)

SHAHOR

(Continued from Page 1) of Labor higher-ups were purely social calls. Saying that Shahor did not drop by "to play backgammon or watch videos," she argued that "classified dealings should remain classified for a reason."

Likud MK Uzi Landau, chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, sees the incident as "yet another manifestation of the fact that there is not enough of a demarcation between the military and politics. Too many of our top military brass harbor continued loyalties to Labor. In any democracy and in order to safeguard the future of our own democracy - there should be no blurring of the distinctions between the military and the political. Our officers should stop dabbling in politics while in uniform."

ROSS

(Continued from Page 1) The US official said Ross and his team "may have to get back into it" because the deal is "not going to happen on its own."

Asked how close the sides are to concluding the negotiations, the official said, "It depends on whether [PA president Yasser] Arafat is prepared to make a decision."

But the official said he was optimistic about Israel and the PA successfully concluding the talks.

"It was extraordinary over the last three weeks to see the camaraderie between the Israelis and Palestinians... in the wake of what happened in September. It really impressed me."

He said "it would certainly be best to do it" by November 12, when the third annual regional economic conference meets in Cairo.

AP reported that an agreement on Hebron would be celebrated there, with Secretary of State Warren Christopher heading the US delegation.

Ross had been in touch with the two sides and planned to speak to Arafat on the telephone this weekend, Burns said Friday.

Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat said yesterday the Palestinians were disappointed that Ross had failed to blame Israel for obstructing progress toward IDF redeployment in Hebron.

At the Palestinian Authority's weekly cabinet session yesterday, Arafat blamed the Netanyahu government for the stalemate in Hebron negotiations and for trying to torpedo them. "Israel is still maintaining its hard-line positions and is trying to disassemble the [Hebron] agreement... and is continuing with the occupation." Arafat told the cabinet that he

obtained "most favorable" results for the Palestinians during his tour of Europe last week.

The Palestinians are committed to the peace process, Arafat said, and hope that Israel will fulfill the agreements faithfully.

"The Palestinians had hoped from the United States, by virtue of the fact that it took part in the negotiations, that Dennis Ross would at least announce which was the party responsible for obstructing implementation of the agreement and which was the party trying to change the agreement signed," Erekat said.

Erekat was speaking at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry after talks with Nabil Fahmy, a senior political adviser to Foreign Minister Amr Moussa.

Erekat said he and his delegation also met Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak yesterday to give him a message from Arafat. Arafat saw Mubarak in Cairo on Friday.

"This Israeli government... is acting, to be quite frank, against everything that was agreed and against the whole peace process, not only on the Palestinian track but also on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks," Erekat said. "It has been carrying out campaigns of widespread deception since the moment the talks started, either by making accusations against the Palestinian side or by inventing problems with Egypt and the states of the region generally," he added.

Islamic Jihad splinter group 'paralyzed' by lack of PLO funds

AMMAN (AP) - A militant Palestinian faction claimed yesterday it has no money to carry out attacks against Israel.

The leader of the splinter Islamic Jihad group complained that Yasser Arafat had stopped giving funds once he reached an agreement with Israel in 1993 that opened the way for Palestinian self-rule.

"Our activities are paralyzed and our cadres are idle, because Arafat stopped giving us money since he signed the Oslo Accord," said Assad Bayyoud Tamimi, leader of Islamic Jihad-Beit al-Maqdes.

The group is a splinter faction that Tamimi founded following the 1982 Israeli invasion of south Lebanon.

The group has claimed responsibility for several anti-Israeli attacks, including the 1990 armed assault on an Israeli tourist bus in Egypt. But it was not involved in the deadly suicide bombings carried out by Muslim militants in February and March in Israel.

UN: Palestinian income down 23% since '92

A UN body said on Friday that real national income in the Palestinian areas fell nearly 23 percent between 1992 and 1996.

"The real national income [GNP] of the West Bank and Gaza Strip between 1992 and 1996 is estimated to have declined nearly 23 percent," the UN Special Coordinator in the Occupied Territories said in a statement from Gaza.

Average unemployment rates in the same period rose from under 10 percent to a current rate of about 30%, it said.

It said real wages for the average employed Palestinian had fallen about 20% since late 1995.

"Higher rates of unemployment

and lower wages have led to an average household consumption decline of about 10% since the end of 1995," the statement said.

"Households are compensating for this decline with greater labor market effort, reductions in savings and by borrowing."

The statement said closures on the West Bank and Gaza Strip that have barred Palestinians from their jobs in Israel played a large part in the deteriorating economic situation.

"Closures have been a particularly important factor determining labor and commodity mobility, economic growth rates, labor market conditions and therefore family living conditions," it said. (Renter)

KILLED DEFENDING ISRAEL
Above all, Alex was clearly a highly moral, extraordinarily decent young man. His brand of Zionism was once the norm here. His loving family's loss is also our loss. Read this book and you will understand why. Nick Roman, Jerusalem Post July 19, 1996
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Concert program for 2.11.30.11
Wolfgang Sawallisch, conductor
Haydn: Symphony no 104
R. Strauss: Death and Transfiguration
Schubert: Symphony no 9 ("The Great")
Sun. 3.11, 8:30 p.m. T-A, concert 2 series A
Mon. 4.11, 8:30 p.m. T-A, concert 2 series B
Tue. 5.11, 8:30 p.m. HdB, concert 2 series A
Wed. 6.11, 8:30 p.m. T-A, concert 2 series C
Thu. 7.11, 8:30 p.m. Jerusalem, concert 2
Carl Davis, conductor
Agnes "City Lights"
Theatre presentation of Chopin's Classical film with live orchestra
Sat. 9.11, 8:30 p.m. T-A, concert 1 Classic & Different
Jun'ichi Hirokami, conductor
Gil Shaham, violinist
Agnes Daniel Shalit: Suite for strings
Dvorak: Violin concerto
Berlioz: Symphonie fantastique
Tue. 19.11, 8:30 p.m. T-A, concert 2 series E
Wed. 20.11, 8:30 p.m. T-A, concert 2 series F
Thu. 21.11, 8:30 p.m. Mv Sdn, special concert
Fri. 22.11, 8:00 p.m. T-A, concert 2 series I
Sat. 24.11, 8:30 p.m. HdB, concert 2 series A
Sun. 25.11, 8:30 p.m. HdB, concert 2 series B
Tue. 26.11, 8:30 p.m. HdB, concert 3 series C
Wed. 27.11, 8:00 p.m. T-A, concert 2 series K
Thu. 28.11, 8:30 p.m. Sdn Cov, special concert
Jun'ichi Hirokami, conductor
Gil Shaham, violinist
Agnes Smetana: Moldau (from Ma Vlast)
Sarasate: Carmen Fantasy, op. 25
Respighi: Fountains of Rome
Respighi: Pines of Rome
Sat. 30.11, 8:30 p.m. T-A, concert 1 Light Classical

DRIVE CAREFULLY

With deep regret we announce the death of
Dr. HEINZ CHAIM BERENDT
The funeral will leave from the entrance of Har Hamenuhot, Sunday, November 3, 1996, at 11:00
The Adiel family
Shiva at Migdal Notim

With deep sadness we announce the death of
MOSHE MORRIS PANTANOWITZ
The funeral will take place today at 14:30 at Har Hamenuhot Cemetery in Jerusalem.
Shiva at 3 Cremieux, Jerusalem.
The family: Zvi and Dorothy, Phillip and Phyllis, Desmond and Beverly grandchildren and great grandchildren

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KARA BUY A PHOTO
BUY AND W

Iliescu with thin lead on eve of Romanian poll

BUCHAREST (AP) — For the first time since their communist dictator was overthrown seven years ago, Romanians seem ready to vote for a power shift in hopes of a better life and closer ties to the West.

President Ion Iliescu, a former communist who has led one of Eastern Europe's poorest countries since Nicolae Ceausescu was ousted and executed in 1989, holds a thin lead in opinion polls ahead of national elections today.

But voters fed up with rampant corruption, stifling bureaucracy and an average monthly wage equal to about \$100 are expected to give the democratic opposition a majority in the two-chamber parliament — and its first chance to form the government.

The latest poll, released Thursday, gave Iliescu 32% of the presidential vote, Constantinescu 28% and Roman 21.5%. None of the candidates is expected to win an outright majority, so a runoff is expected in two weeks.

The poll of 1,076 people had Constantinescu's Democratic Convention leading the parliamentary vote with 32%, six points ahead of Iliescu's party, Roman's Social Democratic Union was given 16.5%. The poll's margin of error was three percent.

"I want Romania to enter NATO and the European Union," said Alexandru Moldoveanu, 70, one of thousands of opposition supporters at a rally Thursday. "I want life to improve here."

All 16 presidential candidates have promised to bring Romania into the two Western clubs that offer a vista of wealth and stability, and to fight the corruption that permeates every sphere of society.

But the main opposition leaders, university professor Emil Constantinescu and former premier Petre Roman, have also campaigned for faster privatization — playing up the benefits of a market economy, such as lower taxes, and carefully avoiding talk of the neg-

atives, such as layoffs.

Iliescu, a 66-year-old former communist who heads the ruling Social Democracy Party, has tried to ease the pain of economic reform by moving slowly.

That has put off Western investors while making him a reassuring figure for Romanians fearful about change.

Yet Iliescu's popularity seems to be waning. He is in the countryside, home to 45 percent of Romania's 23 million people and a traditional base of support for his political machine.

"He's got a clique of people and things stagnate because of the obstacles everywhere, the corruption," said government employee Ion Radia, 31, trying to make extra money by hawking produce in a village outside Bucharest, the capital.

On the street, in the late-fall chill of dusk, people snacked firewood onto horse-drawn trailers and piled heads of cabbage into run-down cars, preparing for the winter ahead — and the shortages it will bring.

Romania remains backward compared to other countries in the region that are on a faster free-market track.

Foreign investors have put only \$2 billion into the country, compared with \$13b. in neighboring Hungary, which has half the population.

Whoever wins the election will need to impose unpopular measures for Romania to win more investment and foreign loans, so analysts predict things will get worse before they get better.

Freeing up the market will involve lifting price freezes on staple goods and gasoline, privatizing banks and much of the former state industry and cleaning up government. About 40% of Romania's economy is in the private sector now.

Inflation is on the rise, currently running at about 45.3% annually, and some economists say it could soar to 100% under market reforms.

Aid workers leave war-torn Goma, fear 'disastrous results'

GOMA, Zaire (Reuter) — Aid workers fled from the war-ravaged east Zaire city of Goma yesterday, leaving in disarray international efforts to feed more than one million Rwandan and Burundian refugees in Zaire.

The World Food Program said that 106 international aid workers reached the Rwandan border town of Gisenyi.

"With our departure there is not a single relief worker in the entire eastern Zaire region," spokesman Panos Moutzias of the main UN refugee agency told the British Broadcasting Corporation. "They are on their own," he said of the refugees.

Moutzias, one of the aid workers who fled to Rwanda, said: "It was one of the most difficult decisions of our lives."

"The prospects for the Rwandans and the Zaireans are disastrous," he said in reference to the refugees caught in the eastern Zaire bloodbath.

Fighting in Goma has pitted Tutsi rebels and Rwandan soldiers against Zairean soldiers and militiamen. A Reuters reporter entered Goma yesterday morning behind troops of the Tutsi-led Rwandan army from Gisenyi.

There was no sign of Zairean troops in the town, the biggest in the area. It served as the Zairean army's main eastern base.

The Zairean army has suffered severe setbacks after a lightning campaign by Tutsi rebels who accuse the Kinshasa government of conducting a campaign of genocide against them.

Reuters correspondents inside rebel-held Zaire have reported the Tutsi capture of a string of towns from Uvira on the northern shore of Lake Tanganyika to parts of Goma city about 250 km north of Uvira.

The Zairean army yesterday accused the country's own government of not doing enough to help combat the rebels.

Prime Minister Kengo wa Dondo reiterated in an interview with Belgian radio there was no question of negotiating with



Zairean civilians carry their children as they flee Bukavu during heavy fighting between Tutsi rebels and the Zairean army over the weekend. The town later fell to the Tutsi rebels, leaving scores of casualties and wounded. (Reuter)

Rwanda until it withdrew from Zaire's territory.

"I will not meet the Rwandans as long as they are on our territory," Kengo told RTBF radio.

Gunfire, less intense than before, could still be heard on the outskirts of Goma and the battle lines remained confused.

Reporters were barred from moving across the city, which was the administrative center for relief operations for hundreds of thousands of Rwandan Hutu refugees.

Some refugees are now dying of hunger, aid workers say.

Mark Richardson of CARE

International said his aid agency had had contact with a radio operator who fled with a group of about 20,000 Rwandan refugees from the Zaire camp of Kuzale.

"He said they have just sat down to die. They have had no water for four or five days. These are the old, the sick, the vulnerable, the children," said Richardson in Nairobi.

Correspondents said a Swedish cameraman, Bengt Stenvall of Sweden's TV4, was hit in the leg by gunfire in Goma yesterday and taken to hospital in Gisenyi. His life was not in danger.

The fighting has left more than a million Rwandan Hutu refugees inside Zaire in desperate straits, aid workers say.

Peter Kessler, of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, said in Nairobi that more than 11,000 Zairean refugees had now fled across the border to southwest Uganda.

He said there were no reported casualties among the aid workers in Goma, who had been sheltering in basements.

The UN Security Council on Friday demanded a cease-fire in eastern Zaire and called on the

international community to come up with an urgent response to the crisis.

The United States threw its weight behind a regional conference due to be held in Nairobi on Tuesday which is expected to discuss the conflict.

All sides ignored international calls for a cease-fire.

World Food Program spokeswoman Michele Quintaglio said another 8,000 refugees had crossed into Uganda from Zaire, bringing the total of refugee arrivals in Uganda to about 23,000 since the beginning of the week.

Chernomyrdin meets Kohl in Moscow stopover

MOSCOW (Reuter) — Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin met yesterday with German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, who made a brief stop in Moscow while returning home from Japan.

The two met at Moscow's Vnukovo-2 VIP airport and discussed international developments and bilateral ties, as well as Russian President Boris Yeltsin's planned heart operation.

"We had a good meeting and were able to discuss many current issues of our relations," Chernomyrdin told a joint news conference.

"I'm very glad about this meeting. I'm also very glad that it is Moscow that the German chancellor found a chance to visit," Chernomyrdin added in remarks carried by Russian news agencies.

The meeting was initiated by Kohl, the ITAR-Tass news agency said.

Kohl told reporters his Moscow stopover was a "natural gesture of respect toward Russia" and that one of the main goals was to

express best wishes to his "good friend Boris Yeltsin."

Kohl and Chernomyrdin said they did not focus on the thorny issue of NATO expansion into eastern Europe. "We shall not continue or speed up these negotiations until Boris Yeltsin returns to work," Kohl said.

Russian and foreign surgeons are due to consult early next week about the president's bypass surgery, and the operation itself might take place within days of that meeting, according to US cardiologist Michael DeBakey, who is advising the Russians.

There have been plans for a Yeltsin-Kohl meeting during Kohl's stopover, but doctors have told the 65-year-old president to avoid holding meetings or engaging in work activities as preparations for the surgery entered their final stage.

The Russian daily *Izvestia* said yesterday that Kohl will invite Yeltsin to recuperate in a German clinic following the surgery.

Government officials in Bonn

said the report was baseless and represented part of what they termed press speculations.

The Russian surgeons have not announced a date for the multiple bypass operation to improve the supply of blood to Yeltsin's heart.

The Russian daily newspaper *Komsomolskaya Pravda* said it would be on Wednesday but gave no source for its report.

DeBakey, who was due to arrive in Moscow yesterday, said Yeltsin had been treated for anaemia and thyroid problems but that he appeared now to be ready for surgery.

"On the basis of what they have told me, it looks like we should be able to go ahead with the operation early next week. He's improved," he told Reuters.

DeBakey, 88, said he would meet Yeltsin's medical team on Monday for final consultations.

Chernomyrdin has already taken on some of Yeltsin's duties and, if all goes according to plan, will assume his full powers for only a few hours.

Security Council renews Iraq sanctions

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The Security Council renewed sanctions against Iraq for another 60 days on Friday, and the United States blamed Iraq for holding up an oil-for-food deal.

The council imposed the sweeping sanctions in 1990 after Iraq invaded Kuwait. It refuses to lift them until it is convinced Iraq has dismantled its war-making capacity, returned property stolen from Kuwait and accounted for Kuwaitis missing in the 1991 Gulf War.

Meanwhile, the CIA's executive director said Friday it has found no evidence Iraq used chemical weapons against US troops in the 1991 Persian Gulf War.

At an unusual news conference at CIA headquarters, Nora Slatkin said the intelligence community is "absolutely committed to help determine what our troops may have been exposed to during the Gulf War."

"Nothing has changed and therefore the sanctions will remain," US Ambassador Madeleine Albright said regarding the renewal of the sanctions against Iraq.

Referring to a recent report by the top UN arms monitor, Albright said that some of Iraq's chemical weapons agents remain unaccounted for, the picture of its biological weapons program is muddled and it has obstructed the access of UN inspectors.

Of the oil-for-food deal, Albright said that the US was behind it but Iraq was holding it up.

"The fault lies not with the Security Council, not with the United States, but with (Iraqi leader) Saddam Hussein, who is deliberately preventing

the coming into effect of Resolution 986," she said.

Under that resolution Iraq would be allowed to sell \$2 billion worth of oil over an initial six-month period.

The proceeds are to go only for humanitarian aid, war reparations to Kuwait and UN monitoring costs.

Regarding the chemical weapons issue, the CIA executive director said the CIA has conducted a comprehensive review of intelligence, and "we continue to conclude that Iraq did not use chemical or biological weapons during the Gulf War."

However, she repeated the agency's finding that some US troops may have been exposed to nerve gas when an Iraqi ammunition dump in southern Iraq was destroyed in March 1991.

Slatkin held the news conference as the CIA and Pentagon were coming under increasing pressure to release all information that might explain mysterious illnesses suffered by US military personnel who served in the Gulf War.

More than 200 intelligence documents relating to the Gulf War were posted on the Internet Thursday by a publisher who is putting out a book by a former CIA analyst who says information is being withheld. Slatkin said CIA Director John Deutch has asked the agency's inspector general to look into those allegations by Patrick Eddington.

The documents on the Internet did not contain information contradicting what Slatkin said. They did include a report that before and during the 1991 Persian Gulf War, truck convoys carried

Iraqi chemical and biological weapons, as well as nuclear material to safe haven in Iran, according to US intelligence documents.

"The trucks were camouflaged with mud during their travel through Iraqi territory," said the report. "The convoy moved only at night. The mud was washed off after re-entry into Iranian territory."

The report said "at least 14 trucks were identified as having nuclear, biological and chemical cargo. Boxes labeled 'malaria,' 'anthrax,' 'botulinum' and 'plague' were loaded into containers."

The trucks were driven by Iranian civilians who turned them over to Iranian Revolutionary Guards.

That account was among more than 200 documents placed on the Internet over the objections of the CIA. They were put on the worldwide computer network by publisher Bruce W. Kletz, who plans to put out a book by a former CIA analyst, Patrick Eddington.

"These documents are still under review," CIA spokesman Mark Mansfield said. "We consider portions of them to be classified."

The Pentagon originally put the material on the Internet and then withdrew it in February when the CIA objected to making it public.

The documents did not shed new light on whether US forces came into contact with Iraqi chemical weapons. But they did show the concern about Iraq's ability to manufacture and deploy such weapons.

One document cited a defector's account that "at least one chemical company is attached to each (Iraqi) division."

Brazilian airline lacks details about plane crash

SAO PAULO, (Reuter) — Brazil's TAM airline refused to speculate over the weekend on what caused a Fokker-100 to crash into a densely populated Sao Paulo neighborhood, killing at least 101 people in the city's worst air disaster.

"All we know is that the plane lacked power," TAM president and owner Rolim Adolfo Amaro told a news conference at Congonhas airport, where the fatal Flight 402 took off on Thursday morning.

Amaro said Fokker technicians and specialists from other airlines were on their way to help TAM and Brazilian aviation officials deter-

mine the causes of the crash. Officials were expected to release their findings within 90 days.

All 96 people on board the shuttle flight to Rio de Janeiro and at least five people on the ground were killed when the 108-seat plane plowed through Parque Jaboaquara neighborhood 30 seconds after take-off.

TAM officials said the plane had problems gaining altitude and never managed to climb above 30 meters.

Witnesses at the airport said they saw the thrust reverser on the Fokker's right turbine deploy automatically as the plane raced down

the runway.

The thrust reverser, engaged during the first landing, is designed to stop, is designed to reverse the direction of the engine's thrust, creating aerodynamic resistance.

The Brazilian media speculated that the TAM flight could have suffered the same fate as a Lauda-Air flight that crashed in Thailand in 1991. Investigators determined the thrust reverser on the Austrian airline's Boeing 767-300 engaged automatically, causing the plane to crash soon after take-off.

TAM officials, however, said such a scenario would be highly unlikely.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

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- The tests were performed to investigate parameters of the filtration process.
- The copies may be purchased for the price of 1,500 NIS + VAT, payable to Mekorot Water Company.
- Interested parties are asked to apply in writing to: Mr. Yehzekel Cohen, Director of the Engineering Services Dept., Mekorot Water Co. Ltd., 9 Lincoln St., P.O. Box 20128, Tel Aviv 61201

Israel Electric Corporation

Request for Information (RFI) No. 9/104
For an Integrative Program Package for Managing Purchase and Supply for Large Projects

The Israel Electric Corporation Ltd. hereby requests information concerning existing applied integrative program packages for managing purchase and supply for large projects.

Request forms and further details may be received at the Dept. for Information and Computer Systems (Ama'm), 11 Palyam Blvd., Floor 11, Room 1109, Haifa, Tel. 04-8615395, Sunday - Thursday, between 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

The final date for submitting information in response to this request is November 20, 1996, at 3 p.m., at the above address.

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Jerusalem's dirty face: Where the sun doesn't shine

TELL ME WHY
JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

I live in Jerusalem, and I have noticed for many years that the northern facades of buildings are much dirtier than all other sides. I can even find my way when lost when I look for the dirty side of buildings and know the direction is north. What is the explanation for this? Myra, Jerusalem.

Dr. Moshe Puterman of the National Institute for Building Research at the Technion in Haifa comments:

I have not noticed this, but it could certainly be true. There are a number of possible explanations, but the most likely one is this: The northern side of buildings gets the least sunlight. The stone that covers Jerusalem's buildings is porous, allowing the growth of blackish mold. On the other sides of the buildings, the ultraviolet rays of the sun would burn the mold away, but would not be able to do so on the northern side. Impregnation of protective substances could prevent mold from taking hold.

Why do our wisdom teeth come in around teenage? Is there some biological reason why they don't come in along with the other permanent teeth? Are there people who never get them? If, in many people, wisdom teeth have to be removed because of too little room, why do people get them at all? Rosslyn, Hadera.

Dr. M.S., a lecturer in pediatric dentistry at Tel Aviv University's Goldschlager School of Dental Medicine, replies:

Wisdom teeth appear around the age of 18. They come in late because the jaw is too small at a younger age to accommodate these extra teeth. New teeth break through the gums when half of the length of the roots has developed, and for wisdom teeth, this occurs near the end of teenage. The main reason for extraction of wisdom teeth is impaction due to lack of adequate space in the jaw.

But not all people get their wisdom teeth. About 16 percent of all adults never get them. In prehistoric times, man needed a very large, strong jaw to grind his food, and those with the largest and strongest jaws were most likely to survive.

But, in the modern era, with blenders and cooked food, large jaws provide no such advantage, and over the ages, man's jaws are getting smaller. Thus there is little room for the wisdom teeth, and one day, they will probably disappear from the human race completely.

I read in a magazine that the North Pole was not always stronger than the South Pole, and that the two poles switch positions every 750,000 years or so. Could this be? How would such a change affect life on earth? Ira, Jerusalem.

Prof. Tsvi Piran of the Hebrew University's department of theoretical physics comments:

The earth rotates and revolves around the sun. The northernmost point of the rotational axis does not change. This is the North Pole, and the South Pole is at the exact opposite. However, the magnetic northern pole is not the same as this geo-



The dearth of sunlight from the north may be an explanation for dirtier northern facades on buildings throughout Jerusalem. (Karen Bezzian)

graphical North Pole. It is close, but not exactly at the same point.

If you were close to the North Pole and used a compass, the arrow wouldn't point directly to it but to the magnetic north, and you would have to take this divergence into consideration.

If man had been around hundreds of thousands of years ago and had a compass, its arrow would point in quite a different direction. I'm not certain it was 750,000 years ago, but the magnetic north pole was previously in a different place than today and it will continue to change slowly. The magnetic north is determined by the liquid metals in the core of the earth, and these forces change very, very gradually over the eons.

Since the changes are so gradual, and few things

on earth are affected by magnetism, the moving of the magnetic north pole would not shake up the ecology, either animals or plants. Migrating birds, which, for example, navigate by sensing magnetic fields, would be confused if the change were sudden, but not if it were slow to develop.

Have you always wondered about the scientific explanation for ordinary phenomena? Now you can get an answer. Mail your question to TELL ME WHY c/o Jerusalem Post Science & Technology Reporter Judy Siegel-Itzkovich, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem, fax to (02) 538-9527, or send it by e-mail to jsie@post.co.il. Please include your first name and place of residence.

Speaking smARTly to your computer

JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

UNFORTUNATELY, this high-tech Israeli product won't induce your children to clean their room or turn down the TV at your first request, but it will make your cellular phone immediately dial the number of a person whose name you say out loud. And soon, you will merely have to say a word or two and it will turn on the microwave oven or the air conditioner and switch to the TV channel of your choice.

A six-year-old Tel Aviv software development company, with its US office in Cupertino, California, called ART (Advanced Recognition Technologies Inc.), is paving the way toward the integration of voice commands in a large variety of electronic devices. The market for this patented software, called "smARTspeak", is huge, and, according to company president Gabi Ilan, ART is way ahead of any competitors.

Another promising ART product is "smARTwriter," an intuitive, compact on-line handwriting recognition program that immediately converts handwriting - even a doctor's sloppy scrawl - into computer-storable text.

Just think of the boon this will be to note-taking college students or secretaries taking dictation. They merely have to write words on a personal digital assistant (PDA) and have them turned into digital text that can be stored, transferred into a personal computer or printed out with great accuracy.

The secret of both developments is the training process, in which the software, which uses artificial intelligence techniques, learns from the voice and handwriting peculiarities of the user from samples and recognizes them in subsequent uses.

Ilan, an engineer who previously worked in Tadiran, and received the Israel Defense Prize for his innovations during his army service, established ART along with Dr. Meir Burstin, the company's chairman and CEO who has a doctorate in information systems and who has considerable experience directing software companies. High-risk capital was invested in the company by the Israeli Athena Fund and by H&Q, a US partnership.

Electronic devices containing

smARTspeak devices are not meant primarily for lazy couch potatoes. Voice commands are very efficient and safe ways of doing things, says Ilan. "If I am sitting in my car and have to call someone on my cellular phone, to look up the number I have to fiddle around with a phone book or an electronic organizer in one hand while driving with the other. Since most American cellular phone owners use theirs in the car (unlike Israelis, who gab on it anywhere, anytime), there should be a very big US market for the product."

If the phone - which operates with a remote-control microphone - contains our software, one merely has to say a word and the phone will identify it and make the call. If you want "darling" as well as her real name to stand for your wife, you can use either word, depending on your mood or who's in the car with you," said Ilan.

The chip is so small that it can fit in any cellular phone. It uses only a negligible 10 kilobytes of code and will cost the cellular-phone manufacturer very little to include it in the product.

Bezeq has signed a deal with ART for an experimental desktop phone that will dial by voice command. The prototype is ready, and Bezeq will soon decide whether it wants to market the product.

To train the chip, the user must once or twice pronounce each of the words he wants to trigger the calls. The system accepts considerable variations in the voice; it will work even if you have a bad cold.

But Ilan says that if you have a severe case of laryngitis and can manage only a whisper, you'd better use the keypad on the phone because in such circumstances it won't recognize you.

Eventually, voice commands could be introduced in many products and services: unlocking your front door, providing access to security installations, operating household electronic equipment and so on. The technology is cheap, simple and highly reliable.

Ilan, a Technion graduate, doubts, however, that the technology could, in the foreseeable

future, be used to orally dictate text directly to a computer, making secretaries or typing obsolete. "The amount of required memory would be tremendous, and because of the problem of run-together words and homonyms, many errors would be made. It just wouldn't be worth it."

But smARTspeak could be used to give your computer simple commands, such as to open your favorite word-processing program or send a document over e-mail, he says.

The other program - smARTwriter - trains to recognize your handwriting in a similar way as smARTspeak studies your voice. It cannot, however, take text that was handwritten in the past and convert it into digital data; the conversion is done in real time.

PDAs (small-screened devices with small electronic "blackboards" on which one writes with a special stylus) did not do well in the past; Apple's Newton was highly advertised, but because it made so many errors, it produced a lot of dissatisfied customers. Very few were sold in Israel because of their high cost and low reliability. But a new Microsoft program called Windows CE adapts Windows 95 to PDAs and greatly improves performance.

The smARTwrite software learns from every correction you make, Ilan explains, and constantly updates itself as it becomes more familiar with the quirks of your handwriting. The ART president expects \$500 PDAs will now become very popular here for specific purposes, including note-taking at lectures, policemen giving tickets, and suppliers bringing equipment and taking inventory, for example.

ART recently signed a deal with Motorola's Land Mobile Products Sector to provide smARTwriter software to Motorola's Forte Wireless CommPad - a rugged, hand-held computer that operates on private two-way radio communications networks. It will be used for utilities, public safety and other industries with a highly mobile, information-dependent workforce.

PDAs are destined to be keyboard-less computers that are user friendly to people who don't know how to touch type or are afraid of personal computers.

On-line cartography of Tel Aviv

ANYONE with access to the Internet can look at detailed city maps and maneuver, with the mouse, to find businesses, hospitals, parks, Magen David Adom, police stations and other sites. The Hebrew-language service is provided by the Golden Pages company, which publishes the country's phone books for Bezeq.

The Web site (at www.yellowpages.co.il) also presents the direction of traffic on roads near the sites, so one can reach them easily by vehicle. One can also click the mouse to print out the map on the spot.

The service is specially keyed to increase use of businesses listed in the Yellow Pages, and makes Israel one of the leading countries in the world in the field of on-line maps. Tel Aviv is the first city on-line, while additional cities will be added in the coming months. The project was carried out with help from the Israel Atlas company, which has a comprehensive cartographic data base.

Yellow Pages marketing director Yanir Aloush said that the service can be used in other ways, for example by people planning to move to a new area and who want

NEW WORLDS POST SCIENCE REPORTER

to know the location of the nearest school, post office, synagogue or grocery store. The system also shows the user the shortest route to the site he seeks.

ISOTOPE SEPARATOR SHUTS DOWN

The isotope separator at the Weizmann Institute in Rehovot has been shut down. The study of nuclear isotopes, their properties and ways of concentrating them was one of the central fields in science and technology since World War II. But, all things come to an end, says Prof. Israel Dostrovsky, who headed the isotope research department at the institute and worked on separating hydrogen, oxygen and other isotopes. Initially, the department supplied these isotopes to any scientist who requested them on a voluntary basis, but when the demand grew, they were produced as a commercial enterprise.

A few years ago, ownership of the separator was sold to Iso-Yeda, a subsidiary of the Yeda Research and Development

Company, and, three years ago, Iso-Yeda decided to sell it to a private company. This firm has operated it until recently, but decided to close it down because it was old-fashioned and couldn't compete with more modern facilities competing in the market.

COMPUTERIZED FOREST

The Jewish National Fund boasts that it is the leading user of computerized geographical data systems (known as GIS). The JNF was ranked by the Systematics company, which studied the use of the system in Israel.

The GIS system is based on the principle of layering levels of information and data one on top of the other and allowing it to be processed, analyzed and assessed. This lets managers analyze the relationship between man and the environment, and to make ecological decisions.

The JNF uses GIS to manage over a million dunams of forests that are used for recreation and pasture for animals. It is a major tool for planning major projects, such as the ecological rehabilitation of the Hula Valley, using data on water flow, soil information and mosquito distribution.

Guf Ha'adam, a Hebrew translation of the Knowledge Adventure CD-ROM called Body Adventure, produced in Tel Aviv by Mirage Multimedia, NIS 199, for children of all ages.

Rating: Four stars out of five. HOW would you like to take your child on a tour of their ears, brain, intestines or heart? Just adjust your two pairs of cardboard-and-cellulose eyeglasses (the right "lens" is blue and the left one is red) provided in the box, sit in front of the computer screen and have a good trip. Since there are few things that interest children as much as their own bodies, this welcome piece of software will allow them to literally get into the subject - by viewing the body's structure and organs three-dimensionally.

The CD-ROM presents body functions and structures in a fascinating way. The main menu contains an alphabetically arranged reference work (because of the young audience, the reproductive organs are downplayed) and a unique anatomical model that, with the click of a mouse, strips itself of skin and muscle until the skeleton and internal organs are visible and swivels 360 degrees around.

Many topics are explained with impressive films and animated diagrams: How fatty plaque deposits in coronary arteries gradually lead to a heart attack; how the eye works; how neuron synapses in the brain fire up and transmit electrical messages in a scene reminiscent of a spark starting a forest fire.

In the reference section, click the first Hebrew letter and select a topic; each contains several paragraphs or screens full of information, writ-

DISK-COVERY JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

ten on a high level in Hebrew. There are also extensive cross-references to tangential subjects, plus diagrams. The most exciting part of the program is the 3-D feature. Choose an organ or body system, put on the special eyeglasses and watch. The parts of the body jump out at you in a magnificent display; you will imagine you have shrunk and are traveling through the body like red corpuscles.

A memory game requires you to match pictures of organs with their Hebrew names. The exciting "Emergency Room" game, played in an on-screen, 3-D hospital, makes you the doctor, and you have to save the patient. But first you must learn something about medicine. Maneuver the cursor through a maze of doorways, elevators, medical lectures, operating theaters and examining rooms.

Exciting as all this is, extended periods of wearing the 3-D glasses for body tours or maneuvering through the virtual-reality hospital may lead to a headache or even a bit of motion sickness; rest your eyes periodically. For a cure, look under "Nervous System."

Mitz Petel (Raspberry Juice), a Hebrew-language CD-ROM based on the book by Haya Shenhar, produced by Impact Plus and marketed by Bug Multimedia, for children aged three to nine, NIS 149.

Rating: three stars out of five. Nearly every kindergarten child in the country

- and every parent who has read aloud books from the kindergarten's "library" - has heard of Mitz Petel (M.P.). The simple story, by Haya Shenhar, is about a giraffe and a lion who want to know what kind of animal M.P. is. Israel TV's Daniel Pe'er narrates the action in this well-animated disk with much verve. Pre-school kids who don't read can have the whole story read out to them without clicking even once.

M.P. lives in a white house with red shutters, green windows and yellow curtains. Who is M.P.? It's a secret. The lion and giraffe try to hide outside the house to catch a glimpse of the creature, but they protrude behind the bushes and trees. Finally, after much waiting, the door opens and the two curious animals get a look at a white leg and two white ears. By now, any child must have guessed that Mitz Petel is a rabbit. But the lion and giraffe keep guessing: a tiger, a mosquito, a frog, a pig? Finally, they introduce themselves and M.P. challenges them to a race to his front door. He reaches it first and locks himself behind it. But he relents and invites them in for a feast on chocolates and ... raspberry juice.

Each of the story's 13 frames shows a beachball somewhere on the screen; click on it for a game. But these are very ordinary. The most annoying thing is that to get to a game, you have to listen to the frame's story first, even if you've heard it a dozen times before.

Computerized books are problematic because they may quickly become boring from repetition, even if well made. This one is meant for those "addicted" to raspberry juice; kids over six will probably find it too sweet to their taste.

Menopausal anorexics found

HEALTH SCAN
POST HEALTH REPORTER

ANOREXIA has until now been diagnosed almost exclusively among teenage girls. But, unexpectedly, doctors have recently reported cases that begin in women reaching menopause. In anorexia, patients starve themselves in order to lose weight, usually vomiting their food because they have an exaggerated body image; they think they are "fat" compared to the "ideal" of today's fashion models.

According to statistics, about 4 percent of adolescent girls have anorexia. It is, almost unknown in teenage boys or men. A culture-bound disease, it occurs in societies where thinness is an ideal.


The menopausal anorexics were reported on in a recent issue of *Harefuah* by Drs. Shmuel Hirshtmann, Alan Apter, Avi Weizmann and Margaret Radwan of the Geha Psychiatric Hospital and the Rabin Medical Center-Beilinson Campus in Petah Tikva. One of the unusual cases involving older women involved a 70-year-old who was brought to the hospital severely undernourished and weighing only 30 kilos. When she was 54, her hus-

band - on whom she had been very dependent - died, leaving her in shock and anger over his having "left her." The anorexia began soon after his death. Her weight dropped drastically to 48 kilos, and the widow boasted about being thin.

The woman was treated in the hospital several times, but no one suspected the cause of her problem was anorexia. It was later learned that she fasted several days a week and took over-doses of laxatives. At 69, she became depressed and decided to stop eating until death. She became so weak that she was able only to crawl around her house. Finally, she was hospitalized at Geha. She was given vitamins, anti-depressants and a supervised diet, gained weight, and was referred to an old-age home that could take care of such a case.

The authors explain that anorexia in older women does not have to result from a desire to be "fashionable," but rather from a desire to be dependent or bed-ridden, and out of hostility to those close to them.

Even though anorexia at menopause is very different from that in adolescence, the results and dangers can be the same.



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General mistrust

IF Maj.-Gen. Oren Shahor, the head of the team negotiating civilian affairs with the Palestinians, met with opposition leaders to hold unauthorized, detailed briefings on developments in these negotiations, then he has no place on the IDF General Staff and should certainly be fired from his position as one of the chief negotiators with the Palestinian Authority. Given the delicate and critical nature of these negotiations — the successful conclusion of the talks over the redeployment from Hebron is imperative if the peace process is to continue — the government needs to have absolute trust in those it sends to represent it at the negotiating table. The lack of mutual confidence between Israel and the Palestinians, highlighted by the Palestinians' cynical use of violence in September, has not helped push these talks forward; a further lack of confidence on the Israeli side in those who are actually conducting the negotiations for Israel almost inevitably dooms any chance of progress.

The question remains, however, whether Shahor did provide Shimon Peres and Yossi Beilin, to name but two former Labor ministers with whom he met, detailed information concerning the negotiations, or whether his meetings with these politicians were part and parcel of a major-general's regular routine.

The Israeli elite is still a small, select band of senior officers, politicians, and business people who constantly meet one another in a variety of social situations; some formal, some casual. As a former prime minister and defense minister, Peres in particular is likely to have formed relations with any number of senior army officers and his position as leader of the opposition should not necessitate a severing of these ties.

Indeed, the informal nature of Israeli society promotes this kind of closeness between leading politicians, both in and out of government, and the military elite. And the ease, not always to the good, with which senior army officers enter politics on leaving the army further blurs the division between the armed forces and civilian life, as compared to other Western democracies.

In fact, many politicians on both sides of the political divide have insisted there was nothing unusual in Shahor meeting with Labor leaders without first informing either the defense minister or the chief of the General Staff, despite the IDF regulation which demands such notification. Other generals, including Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, when he was still in uniform, reportedly met with senior opposition leaders in their homes, without first seeking

the appropriate authorization. It is unfortunate that Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu decided to insist on changing this norm, from which his party, when in opposition, also benefited, without first informing Mordechai and Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak as to his decision and asking them to enforce it. The ambush of Shahor by a *Ma'ariv* photographer outside Peres's home smacks of entrapment. The newspaper seems to have been very well informed as to the general's movements and one doubts whether such knowledge was solely the result of investigative reporting on the part of the paper.

Until the results of the investigation into Shahor's meetings is completed, all that has been achieved so far by the affair has been the public besmirching of a senior army officer's reputation, a further tensing of the already troubled relations between the government and the IDF top brass, and the demonization of opposition leaders by certain unrestrained government ministers. Particularly chilling, given this weekend's anniversary of Yitzhak Rabin's murder, were Communications Minister Limor Livnat's remarks in which she raised the possibility that the Labor leaders who met with Shahor passed on information concerning the negotiations to the Palestinians.

Unfortunately, the lack of confidence in the IDF's non-partisan professionalism seems to be a hallmark of the Netanyahu government. Although Netanyahu has dissociated himself from MK Uzi Landau's remark that the present officers of the General Staff are the lackeys of the previous government, Landau still heads, on behalf of the Likud, the prestigious Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, to which all the country's security chiefs provide regular briefings. Indeed, there are many mainstream Likud members, such as former prime minister Yitzhak Shamir, who think Landau's remarks accurately describe the general staff, and that certain of its members should be replaced.

In his speech at the Defense Ministry's memorial for Rabin, Shahak warned of the dangers of the decline in public respect for the IDF. Pointedly, the chief of the General Staff complained of the political labeling of IDF officers and called for more mutual understanding and support. Until it can be proved otherwise, Maj.-Gen. Oren Shahor deserves to be treated with the full dignity his rank and responsibility command.



OLEG 96

Labor: In memoriam

IN Israel political gossip takes the place of political reporting.

It's all about who hates whom, who wants to unseat whom, who traded slanderous remarks with whom, according to "intimate sources." A child could count the number of serious commentators in this country.

The recent Weiss Report, for example, has been relegated to the gossip mill. "Who's to blame for Labor's defeat? Who will rise and who will fall as a result of the report? Who will get rid of whom?"

Meanwhile a new day comes, bringing a fresh batch of gossip, and the media moves on. Such marginal treatment is unfortunate. For Shevah Weiss's report is not only a very serious document, but a riveting story. To those who care about Israel's future it reads like a thriller.

The report is a snapshot of Israeli society on election day. It shows every minute detail in a manner which leaves no room for debate. Details are enlarged as if under a magnifying glass.

The professors who invented the new system of elections were, in essence, conducting a giant experiment, with the entire nation as their guinea pig. The professors themselves were astonished by the results: The two main parties shrank, and Israeli society splintered into ethnic, socioeconomic, ideological and religious sectors. Comparing elections for the Knesset with direct election for prime minister reveals the real face of Israeli society with amazing clarity.

Most astounding is the religious sector. A frightening fact: In precincts where almost all voters cast their Knesset votes for religious factions, 99.5 percent voted for Binyamin Netanyahu as prime minister. This kind of percentage exists only in totalitarian regimes.

One is forced to conclude that the differences between the various religious groups are gradually fading. Politically speaking, they comprise a monolithic bloc run by a handful of rabbis who need no KGB or dictatorship. Questions of war and peace are, apparently, inconsequential to them. For them the only determining factors are profound hatred of

JURI AVNERI

the left and a sweeping fear of the secular-democratic-liberal world view. Yeshiva scholars, National Religious Party settlers and Habad members are becoming almost indistinguishable — all shut off in their own totalitarian world, each one convinced that the world is against us, each knowing from birth that we cannot live in peace with the Gentiles.

To all intents and purposes the party is deceased

The Oriental Jewish sector is somewhat less monolithic in mind-set. However, an analysis of voting precincts indicates that the vast majority there voted for the Likud or Shas for the Knesset, and for Netanyahu as prime minister.

Here too the apparent determining factor is hatred of the left, but for a different reason: The left is seen as the agent of the controlling rich, arrogant, oppressive Ashkenazi establishment. And, indeed, the Ashkenazi sector, whose vast majority voted for Labor or Meretz for the Knesset and Shimon Peres as prime minister, lives in the wealthy suburbs, the residence of CEOs, professors and journalists.

The picture is particularly stark in Tel Aviv: An analysis of voting precincts reveals that the north voted for Peres, the south for Netanyahu. The division of votes switches with mathematical precision on the road from Ramat Aviv to the Hatikva Quarter.

THE ARAB sector voted for Peres just as monolithically as the religious sector voted for Netanyahu. In the Knesset elections the Arabs voted for their various parties, just like the religious.

The final sector is the Russian immigrants. In districts where the majority of voters were immigrants from the former Soviet Union, Netanyahu received 70 percent of the vote and Peres 30 percent.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SAD

Sir, — Who are the "they" Michal Yudelman and Yael Dayan refer to in "They have learned nothing from the murder of Rabin" (*The Week That Was*, October 25)? Though, enough with the intimation that those of us who disagreed with Rabin's decisions and direction as he orchestrated the "peace process" were co-conspirators facilitating his assassination. That suggestion is itself belligerent and divisive, bordering on incitement. Is an "extreme" right-wing nationalist anyone who does not espouse extreme left-wing dogma and share the Peres fantasy of a New Middle East?

Next, the reference to a "settler" (I think we are meant to read that as violent fanatic) accused of verbally abusing Shulamit Aloni on *Popolitika*. Funny, a polite and respectful, patient and affable exchange of ideas doesn't ever seem to materialize on that show. But in the same breath that Yudelman condemns the rabbi from Kiryat Arba for verbal abuse, she herself resorts to name-calling, referring to him as an "ignoramus" and applauds Tommy Lapid's "valiant effort to brand him as 'nothing but a hooligan.'"

On to another highlight of the week: the "rudeness and vulgari-

SELECTIVE MORALITY

Sir, — In what seems to be yet another attempt by defeated members of the Labor Party to discredit the present government of Israel, former Minister of Police Moshe Shahal is now calling for an official inquiry into the opening of the exit to the Hasmonean Tunnel, and is asking Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat to investigate the matter. Not to be outdone, Ron Cohen of Meretz said he would insist the affair be fully investigated to prevent the loss of life in future incidents.

Interestingly and true to form of the leftist selective morality, neither one of these individuals so concerned with the loss of life has called for an investigation into the pogrom in Nablus in which six of our young soldiers were murdered in cold blood by weapons which the Labor government unanimously authorized be given to the Palestinian Authority, comprised mostly of Arab terrorists and not a few murderers of Jews.

Can it be that the finger they now point is designed to call attention away from their own guilt? SHIFRA HOFFMAN, Founder and President, Victims of Arab Terror Jerusalem.

ELAINE SELOMOVIC Jerusalem.

THE ATTACK ON Yael DAYAN

Sir, — It is almost beyond belief that just short of a year after the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, a similar kind of violence is manifested against MK Yael Dayan. The demented mentality of a person who would throw scalding tea on a human being is just a short step away from using a gun.

Yes, a "spokesman" for the religious settlers condemned the attack. He found it necessary, however, to qualify the condemnation with a "but." The implication is that, "...while we condemn the attack, you should realize that you provoked us to it." It is obvious that the hate of some religious fanatics for anybody who speaks against them knows no boundaries. PROF. BERNARD KATZ Tel Aviv.

THE BIRTH OF ISRAEL

Sir, — I am writing a book on the birth of Israel as seen through the eyes of those extraordinary people who made their way to the Jewish Homeland or before or at the time of the Declaration of Independence, 1948.

As author of *No Time To Wave Goodbye*, I am anxious to hear your remarkable stories or those of your parents. What was it like leaving loved ones behind? How did you travel to Israel? What hardships did you encounter on the way. What was it like when you finally arrived in Israel? Based upon reminiscences of these pioneers, the book, *To Touch The Face of Home*, will be published worldwide by the British publisher Bloomsbury, in the fall of 1997. Please write to me c/o Jack White, Box 10666, Karmiel. BEN WICKS

I AM SORRY HE CAME

Sir, — I am outraged at the behavior of Jacques Chirac, both at the personal and at the political levels. I am embarrassed by the inappropriate tolerance and undeserved hospitality shown him. I am glad that he did not speak to the Knesset; he doesn't deserve the honor.

I am sorry that he did not fulfill his threat and leave in his inappropriate state of umbrage (why should our sons risk their lives to protect such as he?). I am sorry that President Weizman remained standing at the gate to wait for him. I am sorry that Prime Minister Netanyahu "apologized" for providing security. I am sorry Chirac was allowed to come for what was not a proper state visit. I am sorry he came. I am glad he's gone. With "friends" like these, we don't need enemies. DR. NETTA DOR-SHAIV Hezliya.

PICTURE POSTSCRIPT



Portrait of a bad loser: this little boy takes out his frustration on an oversized teddy bear, a prize he failed to win at a fair in Beijing. (Reuter)

POSTSCRIPTS

SEX IS fine, but rare. Breasts are more common and barely raise an eyebrow. But when something like Cripple Creek shows up on a US map, Roger Payne springs into action.

As chief of the US Board of Geographic Names, Payne arbitrates disputes over what people can call hollows, deserts, streams and mountains.

There are 67 Cripple Creeks in the US and no one had ever objected to the name — until now, when a disabled person in Texas asked to call a nearby stream by that name to honor the handicapped.

Advocates for the disabled objected, so the board must get involved. "The most important policy of the board is local use and acceptance," Payne said.

Sex, in terms of US mapmaking, is not taboo. The actual word "sex" appears only twice — in Sex Peak and Sex Peak Lookout, both in Montana.

ABOUT 500 members of the Pakistan Poultry Association released hundreds of chickens onto a road next to the provincial assembly building in Lahore to protest the rising price of poultry fodder.

So now we finally know why the chicken crossed the road: to protest the high cost of food.

Your health!

JUDY SIEGEL ITZKOVICH

THIS government, like many of its predecessors, treats health like a middle-aged man who chain-smokes, eats steak for breakfast and "exercises" by pointing his remote control at the TV — an attitude that implies "Things will work out, so let's not worry about tomorrow; let's think positive and not bother trying to change the situation."

There was thus little surprise that the health portfolio was the last to be filled. It was finally handed over to a young man with no proven interest or experience in the subject, and apparently equally little desire to fix it.

Then as soon as recent law graduate Tzahi Hanegbi was offered the job of acting justice minister, he grabbed it, spending less and less time learning the ropes at Health and more and more in the more genteel, suit-and-tie atmosphere of Justice.

Now it seems that the career-minded Hanegbi, who had barely warned his seat at ministry headquarters in Jerusalem's San Simon quarter, is off full-time to the Justice Ministry enclave in eastern Jerusalem.

Taking over from Dr. Ephraim Sneh (a physician who himself showed more enthusiasm for security affairs and running for the premiership than for health matters) Hanegbi said he had really wanted to be transport minister and reduce road accidents. But if that wasn't to be, he said, he was "happy" to tackle the Health Ministry.

He went on the requisite tours of hospitals and clinics, appointed a number of committees to investigate medical "scandals" disclosed by the Hebrew papers, persuaded the Treasury to increase nurses' job slots — and that was it.

He spoke several times about amending the National Health Insurance Law to make it more workable and financially stable, but nothing came of it.

The national health insurance system, already over NIS 1b. in deficit, teeters on the edge of a

It's vital — but the government doesn't seem to think so

major crisis, and there is scant evidence that the ministry will be ready to include psychiatric services in the health care basket on the (already postponed) scheduled date, January 1.

Given the fact that he was also the government's liaison to the Knesset and head of the Ministerial Justice Committee, Hanegbi had precious little time for the ministry.

This was illustrated by his surprising absence from a recent two-day Jerusalem conference on the national health insurance system attended by nearly every major figure concerned; Hanegbi's spokesman explained that the minister was absent owing to "previous commitments."

NOW LIKUD sources say that one man who was studiously paying attention at that conference, MK Yehoshua Matza, will become health minister this week, leaving Hanegbi to be "promoted" to full-time justice minister.

The 65-year-old Matza, best known to the public as a lackluster candidate who unsuccessfully ran several times against Teddy Kolket for the Jerusalem mayoralty, wants to get into the government, even through the "basement" of the Health Ministry. Matza has waited quietly to be rewarded with a portfolio for his loyalty to Binyamin Netanyahu.

This is probably his last big career move, so Matza will want to make good. The question is whether he has the capability, dedication and political acumen to push the right reforms through.

A nation's health must not be regarded as a luxury, or as an unproductive expense. The ministry's budget is one of the largest, and its life-and-death decisions affect us all. Nothing promotes a decent society more than a health system which ensures every citizen can function physically and emotionally at his or her highest potential.

One need only look at the statistics in Russia, where the average male's life expectancy is 56 and foreign experts have to be consulted about the president's heart problems, to appreciate the damage a rotten and neglected health system can wreak.

The writer is a member of The Jerusalem Post editorial staff. The views expressed are not necessarily those of the paper.

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AMERICAN OUTLOOK

A review of commentary and humor
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Sunday, November 3, 1996



Happy days

Case against Clinton resembles one FDR faced

BY JEFFREY ROSEN

As U.S. President Bill Clinton prepares to become the first two-term Democrat since FDR, commentators on the left and the right are expressing skepticism about his achievement. Paul Gigot of The Wall Street Journal suggests that "voters may choose a man they don't trust" because Clinton has so degraded the standards of American democracy that citizens now expect nothing more from their leaders. Maureen Dowd of The New York Times argues that "Bill Clinton is really scary" because "(h)e is better at being opportunistic, better at frightening the country, better at playing dirty" than Republican candidate Bob Dole.

What Roosevelt's critics underestimated in 1936, and what Clinton's critics underestimate today, is the importance of adaptability in a deliberative democracy: the virtue of tacking right and left to govern from the center; the sensitivity required to push the electorate, at any given moment, no further than it is ready to be pushed.

Am I alone in suspecting that Clinton is not merely the lesser of two evils, but by far the most impressive president that those of us born after the death of John F. Kennedy have known? Let's begin with the case against Clinton: that he doesn't stand for anything beyond his own reelection; that he co-opts the most popular ideas of his opponents; that he is personally untrustworthy. As Gerald Gamm of the University of Rochester observes, this is precisely the same case that liberal and conservative commentators made against FDR in the 1936 campaign. FDR ran four years earlier as a balance-the-budget fiscal conservative, promising to raise taxes and cut spending. Once in office, he abandoned any semblance of ideological consistency and, in a spirit of pragmatic experimentation, proposed the Second New Deal largely to fend off more extreme proposals on the left and the right. The Social Security Act was Roosevelt's moderate response to the far more radical Share the Wealth Plans proposed by Dr. F.E. Townsend and Huey Long. What Roosevelt's critics underestimated in 1936, and what Clinton's critics underestimate today, is the importance of adaptability in a deliberative democracy: the virtue of tacking right and left to govern from the center; the sensitivity required to push the electorate, at any given moment, no further than it is ready to be pushed. Health care, after all, was the debacle of Clinton's first term, just as court packing was the debacle of Roosevelt's second. In both cases, high-handed and defensive presidents tried to govern by fiat rather than leading by argument and persuasion.

Substantively, of course, the achievements of Clinton's and Roosevelt's first terms can't be compared. FDR, for all his bobbing and weaving,

was a programmatic and revolutionary president whose construction of the New Deal activist state precipitated what Bruce Ackerman has called a "constitutional moment." Clinton is a conservative president who seeks to defend the rudiments of the New Deal from the counter-revolutionary proposals of the Gingrichite Congress, while paring away the excesses of the Great Society. Like Dwight Eisenhower, another conservative bridge president who reconciled the 1950s Republicans to the welfare state legacy of FDR, Clinton has helped the Democrats accept the laissez-faire legacy of Ronald Reagan. But, without a depression or a war to fight, Clinton is in the awkward position of being the first president since LBJ to offer a rhetorical defense of federal activism, while acknowledging at the same time that "the era of big government is over."

Clinton's domestic agenda, the Brady bill. Fortunately, Clinton's most enduring legacy is his two sterling Supreme Court appointments. Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Stephen Breyer are far more inclined than their Republican colleagues to defer to the political branches, and they are committed to preserving the New Deal rather than precipitating a 60th anniversary reprise of the crisis of 1937. (Perhaps Justice O'Connor will make a switch in time!) At the very least, Clinton deserves to be re-elected for reclaiming the banner of judicial restraint that Democrats carried during the Roosevelt era.

Given the contradictions at the heart of Clinton's presidency, what is it, precisely, that I admire about him? The answer, I suppose, is his character. Clinton's defining impulse, after all, is not insincerity but a surfeit of empathy: He earnestly does believe in the possibility of reconciling contradictions that can't be logically reconciled: Reagan with Roosevelt, racism with colorblindness, family values with civil liberties.

But, as Clinton demonstrates in his moving speeches to black churches, a Whitmanesque ability to embrace contradictions isn't always a vice in a balkanized age. I suppose, in the end, that I also admire Clinton's intelligence and his passion for argument, which vindicates the Madisonian premises that Ronald Reagan's success called into question. Clinton, who appears to be smarter, although less stylishly duplicitous, than Kennedy and Roosevelt, reassures us that a first-rate education isn't necessarily a disqualification for leadership in American democracy.

On this point, the networks missed the most telling image in the second presidential debate last week. After the final question, as both candidates fanned out into the audience, Dole awkwardly signed autographs and mumbled greetings to well-wishers. Suddenly, the C-SPAN camera zeroed in on Clinton, who had backed a middle-aged questioner against a wall and was earnestly trying to argue with her about the merits of one position or another. His eyes fixed single-mindedly on his target, he continued to argue animatedly for four minutes. All told, Clinton lingered for 40 minutes, debating undecided citizens, one by one. If there's a better way for the president of the United States to conduct his final campaign, I can't imagine it.

Jeffrey Rosen is legal affairs editor of *The New Republic*, in which this article first appeared.
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Injuring a fetus, killing a child

BY ALAN DERSHOWITZ

A truth-is-stranger-than-fiction case in Texas raises an interesting twist on the question of when does life begin. It started as a simple drunken-driving accident. But the passenger in the car into which the drunken defendant's truck crashed was seven-and-a-half months pregnant. As a result of the crash, the woman underwent an emergency Cesarean section and her daughter was born, weighing only 4 pounds and suffering from extensive brain damage caused by the crash. The baby lived for 44 hours after birth.

Texas law provides that homicide is the taking of a human life, and it explicitly says that a fetus is not a human life for purposes of the law of homicide. For the killing to be homicide, the "person" must have been "born." Nonetheless, the defendant was charged with homicide and, convicted on the following interesting legal theory: Although the injury that caused the death occurred before birth, the resulting death occurred after birth. The crucial question on appeal, therefore, will be: "When did the crime occur?"

Already, this case is being seen as part of the ongoing abortion debate between the right-to-lifers and the right-to-choicers. Anti-abortion advocates believe that if the conviction is affirmed, this case will establish the principle that a fetus is a person for purposes of the law of homicide. Pro-choice advocates believe that a reversal of the conviction will establish the principle that a fetus is not a person and that only someone who has been born is covered by the law of homicide. But this case really has little to do with the abortion debate. It is about the definition of what the criminal law calls "a continuing crime."

Although the injury that caused the death occurred before birth, the resulting death occurred after birth. The crucial question on appeal, therefore, will be: 'When did the crime occur?'

Some crimes occur in an instant. For example, if a defendant shoots a victim in the heart and the victim dies immediately, the entire crime of homicide is completed in a matter of seconds. But in many homicide cases, the death may occur hours, days, weeks, even months later. The so-called "year and a day" rule has long recognized that reality. It provides that if a death is to be a homicide, the victim must die within a year and a day of the wound having been inflicted. So, when a defendant shoots a victim in 1995 in Providence, R.I., and the victim dies in 1996 in a Boston hospital, the law may have to decide when the crime occurred. The answer is relatively straightforward. The shooting took place in Providence in 1995, but it became a murder in 1996 when the victim died in Boston. The murder took place both in Providence and Boston, because both the shooting and the death are necessary elements of murder, but the case will probably be tried in Providence because that is where the defendant's culpable act occurred. If the death occurs within a year and a day (in those states which still retain that rule), the defendant will be convicted of murder.

The Texas case is a bit more complex. That crime, too, is a continuing one: It began with the drunken crash and ended two days later with the death of the child. But at the time of the crash, there was no injury to a person under Texas law. The injured fetus became a person only after the crash, when it was born. An analogous case might be the following: A state makes it a capital offense to murder specific categories of people, such as a policeman, a prison guard, etc. Several states have such laws. If a defendant murders anyone else, he is punished by life imprisonment. Because elderly people have become frequent targets of homicide, the state adds to the capital punishment list "any person over the age of 70." A defendant shoots a 69-year-old woman, who languishes for six months and then dies after her 70th birthday. Would the defendant be eligible for the death penalty?

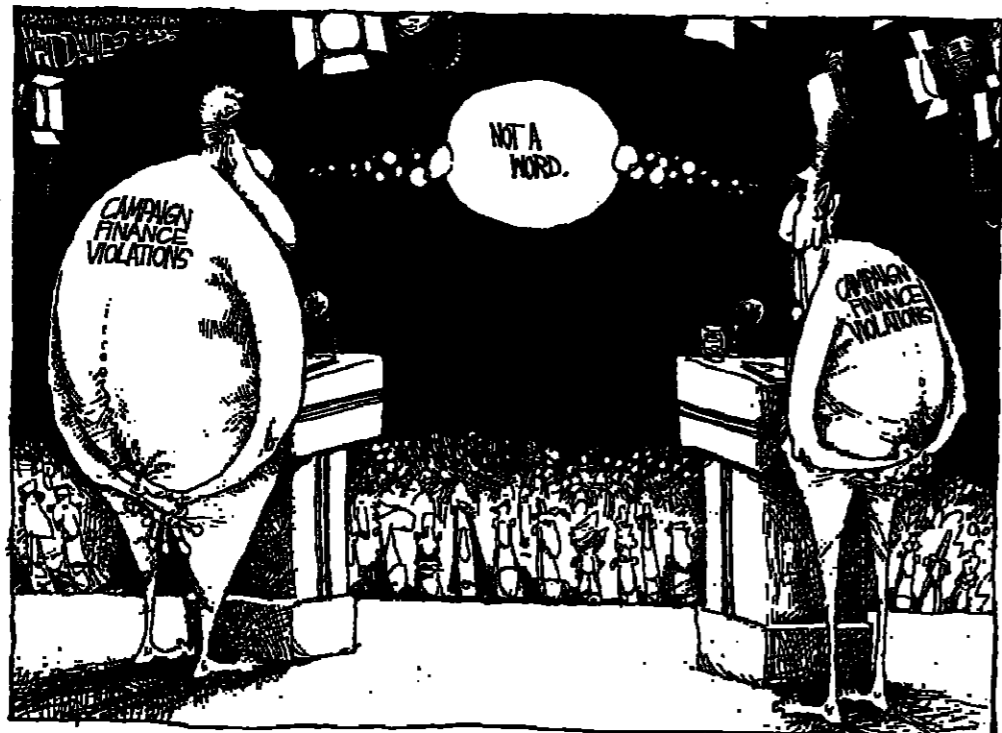
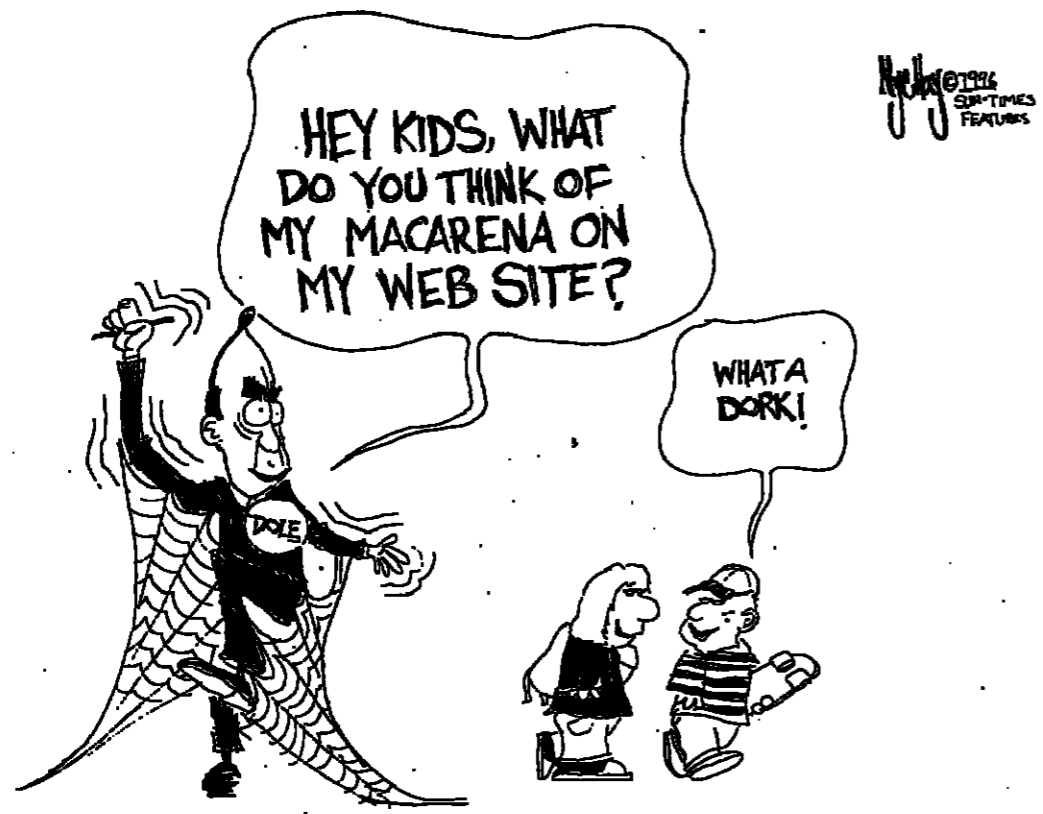
The answer to that question and to the similar question posed in the Texas case can be found in an old principle of law called "lenity." The principle provides that when there are two plausible interpretations of the scope of a criminal statute, the courts must adopt the one more lenient to the defendant. The Supreme Court has defined this "wise" principle as follows: "when choice has to be made between two readings of what conduct [the legislature] has made a crime, it is appropriate, before we choose the harsher alternative, to require that [the legislature] should have spoken in language that is clear and definite."

If Texas wishes to make it homicide to injure a fetus that then dies after birth, it must say so "in language that is clear and definite." Thus far, it has not done so.

Alan M. Dershowitz is a professor of law at Harvard University. His newest book is *Reasonable Doubts* (Simon & Schuster).

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EDITORIAL CARTOONS



THE EMPERORS' SAME OL' CLOTHES.

Political failure in Russia mirrors the country's past

By TIM MCDANIEL

History has many uses. For political actors, it is the repository of demons to be destroyed and visions to be fulfilled. For more distant observers, the study of history often gives rise to melancholy reflections on the eternal return of unwelcome cultural patterns even in periods of profound social and political change. The current conflicts in the Kremlin are as redolent of Russia as a Mussorgsky opera, an Akhmatova poem, or Alexei Tolstoy's play about Ivan the Terrible, which, as it happens, General Lebed went to see after he was ejected from the Yeltsin government last month.

When Ivan the Terrible, facing boyar opposition, abandoned Moscow and assumed the role of outcast martyr, he won over his people and re-established his autocracy. The redoubtable General Lebed may re-enact a similar tragedy. But that is not the Lebed affair's only historical echo. By 1921, Lenin had built up a regime of arbitrary personal power divorced from the people. From 1922 to 1924, while he lay immobilized after a series of strokes, two archetypal creatures of this personalistic system vied for power: Joseph Stalin, a master of intrigue and the center of a dense network of personal connections; and Leon Trotsky, the outspoken former head of the Red Army, full of charisma, not at all a team player — and for these reasons hated by the apparat.

Of course, Anatoly Chubais is no Stalin, and Alexander Lebed is not as brilliant as Trotsky. Yet the parallel still holds: The prominence of the shadowy Chubais and the charismatic Lebed is the logical outgrowth, as it was for their communist predecessors, of an enormous political failure. This time around, that failure may leave Russia on the brink of possible disaster once Yeltsin dies.

Yeltsin's actions have never flowed from any kind of commitment to democracy, and they have nurtured neither a democratic culture nor democratic institutions. Rather, his primitive understanding of democracy and capitalism as simply the negation of the Communist past has been matched by an overriding, and sometimes ruthless, commitment to his own political survival. Yeltsin's lack of any real belief in democracy explains both what he has done and what he has not done since he took office. Tossing the popular Lebed out is part of a pattern of political conduct rooted in tactics rather than strategy: set up an arch-enemy — whether ex-Prime Minister Alexandr Rutskoi, ex-Speaker of the Parliament Ruslan Khasbulatov or ex-chief of the Security Council Lebed; demonize this enemy as anti-democratic, the representative of dark forces of the past; and expel or destroy it, thus reaffirming one's own "democratic" credentials.

But at least as significant is what Yeltsin has not done. In late 1991 and early 1992, leaders of the democratic movement repeatedly suggested establishing new representative political institutions that could supplement the fractious and embattled parliament. Yeltsin ignored them. Rather than ruling by and through parliament and

political parties, he preferred, like the last Romanov rulers, to rely on an unstable array of political favorites in Moscow and personal emissaries dispatched throughout the country. He continues to rule by decree, even though the decrees have little force. Because no political institution enjoys a scintilla of legitimacy in contemporary Russia, the government is unable to perform even its most elementary tasks: to collect taxes, to pay its own employees or to support an army. The Soviet-style "dictatorship of the proletariat" has indeed been followed by the withering away of the state.

The current conflicts in the Kremlin are as redolent of Russia as a Mussorgsky opera, an Akhmatova poem, or Alexei Tolstoy's play about Ivan the Terrible, which, as it happens, General Lebed went to see after he was ejected from the Yeltsin government last month.

Operating in close to a political vacuum, Yeltsin follows the logic of personal autocracy as if born to the role, substituting time-honored despotic practices for popular support. His complaint against Lebed was that he was "splitting the team apart," a team that should "work like a fist." But in fact Yeltsin himself has done much to foster disunity, playing one minister off against another, scapegoating officials for policy failures, and hiring and firing them at will. Chubais himself was previously fired as a scapegoat for privatization scandals and then re-appointed when useful for Yeltsin's re-election campaign. Now this highly dubious figure, unpopular save among those who profited from his leadership of Russia's voucher-privatization, has temporarily eclipsed Lebed, the country's most admired public figure — who himself was originally appointed by Yeltsin for purely utilitarian motives. Just as democracy for Yeltsin is the defeat of his enemies, who are always branded as representatives of the Communist past or proponents of fascism and military dictatorship, so he and his allies are unable to grasp the organizational and moral dimensions of capitalism. Fundamental principles accepted in all advanced industrial countries have no warrant in Russia: for example, the idea that workers should have rights protected by the government; that class relations should be based upon some kind of reciprocity; that property is not simply theft; and that capitalist elites gain legitimacy through their contributions to the larger society.

Yet, despite all this, Russia is not about to fall apart. That's because whatever the continuities in Russian political culture, Russian society has changed enormously. First, in the aftermath of Communism's failure, there is for the first time in the country's modern history remarkably little com-

mitment to a separate Russian path to modernity. This is why the oft-heard parallels to Weimar Germany are superficial: Unlike contemporary Russia, Germany had not yet tested its nativistic alternative to "mechanistic" Western society, and German society of the '20s was rife with ideologies and social movements. The Russian people are too world-weary to be tempted by such siren calls — thus their amazing passivity in the face of one calamity after another.

This passivity also is due to a second major change: Russians now know that they cannot rely on this government, which, quite undemocratically, has broken with the long Russian tradition of state paternalism. Having been told since 1991 that they are living through a period of social Darwinism, and that they must take care of themselves, they have learned to do just that. From professors of engineering who grow their own potatoes to mafia groups bartering aluminum for Japanese electronics, Russians have begun to create a society far less based than before on a complex division of labor and much more dependent upon localized ties. Many people, having found ways to survive and perhaps even prosper, are simply not interested in the palace intrigues of the Kremlin.

Third, and equally significant: For the first time in Russian history there is now a powerful private elite able to protect its position against both the people and a potentially hostile future government. At present, that elite is well represented in Yeltsin's Kremlin, especially through the good offices of Anatoly Chubais. Tsarist officials often vainly hoped that such an elite might emerge to provide social stability. Whatever else Boris Yeltsin has done, he has created the conditions under which these "strong men" can get down to business, and to politics as well. The latest Kremlin tempests probably don't worry them much, either.

There are, then, several sources of stability in contemporary Russia. But this does not mean that Russia is a democracy, even a fledgling one. The Lebed affair clearly demonstrates the decay pervading contemporary Russian politics, based as it is on purely personalized power. If Lebed were to become president, his regime would rest on the same insubstantial foundation, and Russian politics would continue to conjure up gloomy reminders of the country's political past. Were he shrewd enough, as president, to realize that the status quo, with its weak and illegitimate state and its capitalists who curse everyone, gives very little hope for the future, new troubles might loom. Like Peter the Great and Stalin before him, he might then attempt a desperate revolution from above that would provide no effective solutions to Russia's endless search for a viable form of modern society — which should remind us that Boris Yeltsin, whatever his flaws, is far from the worst model of ruler in the repository of Russian history.

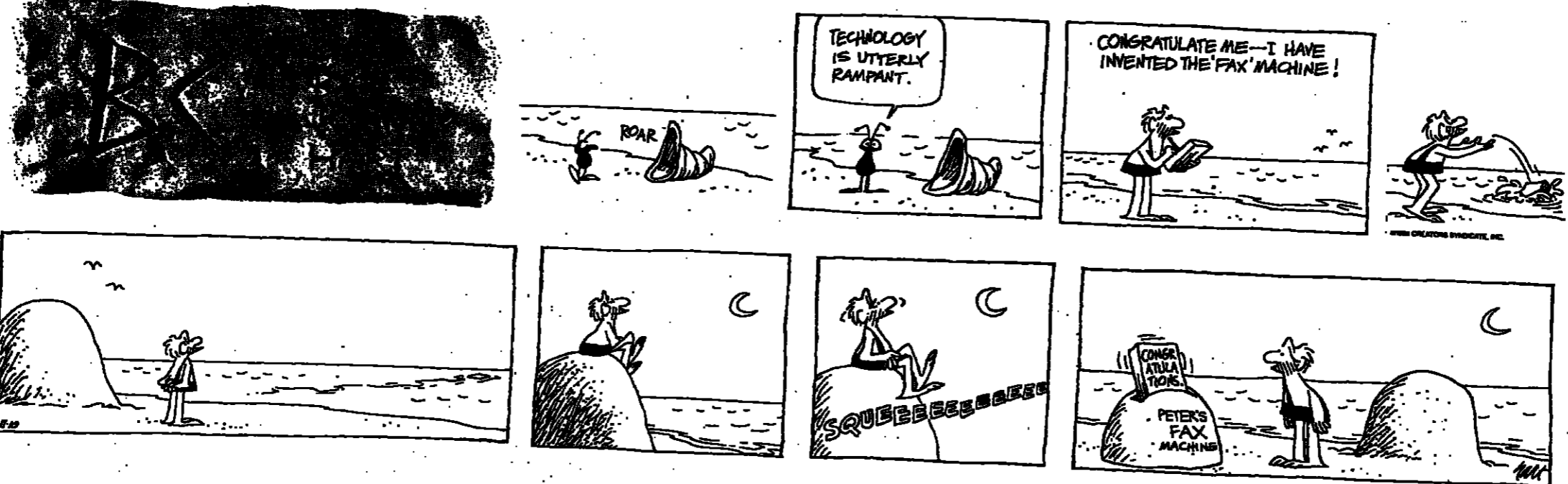
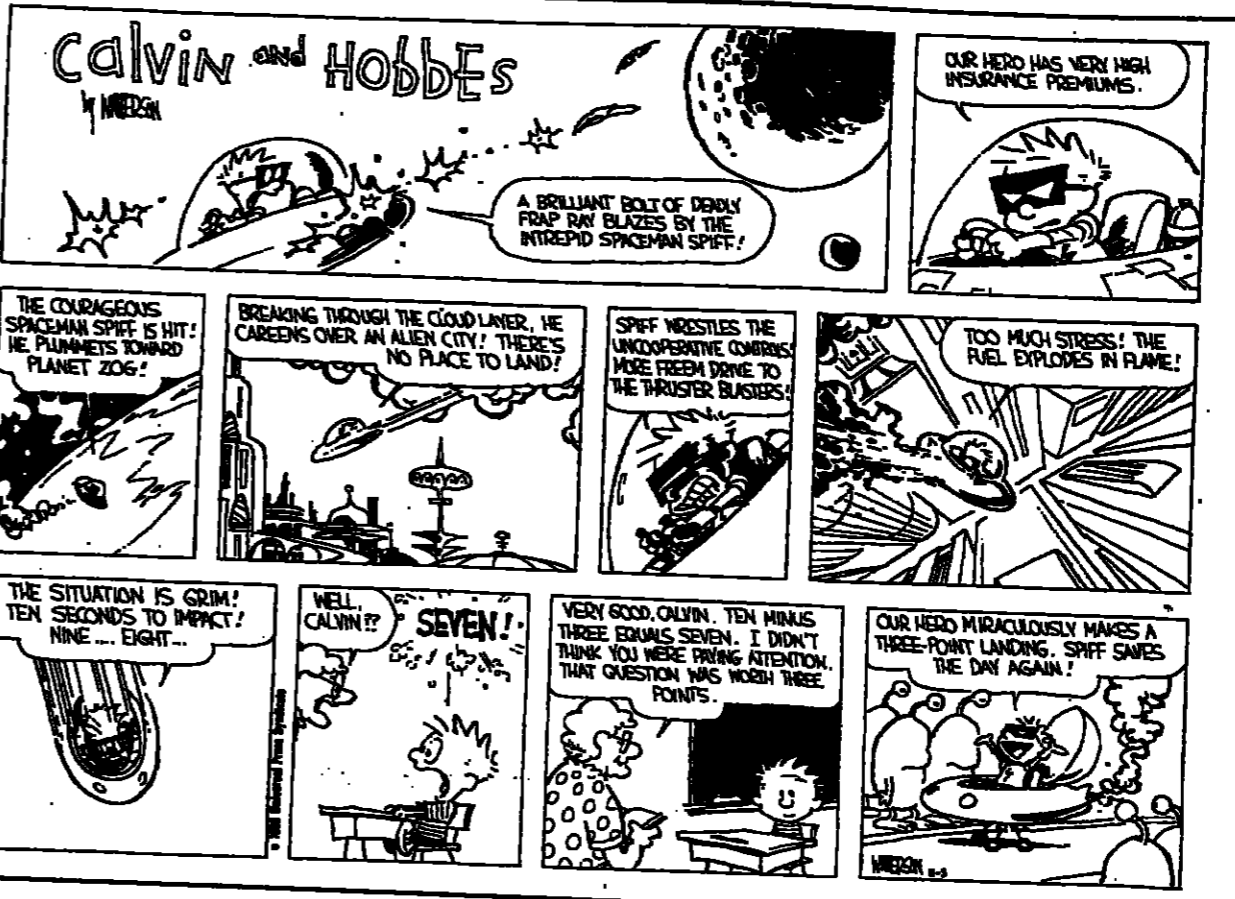
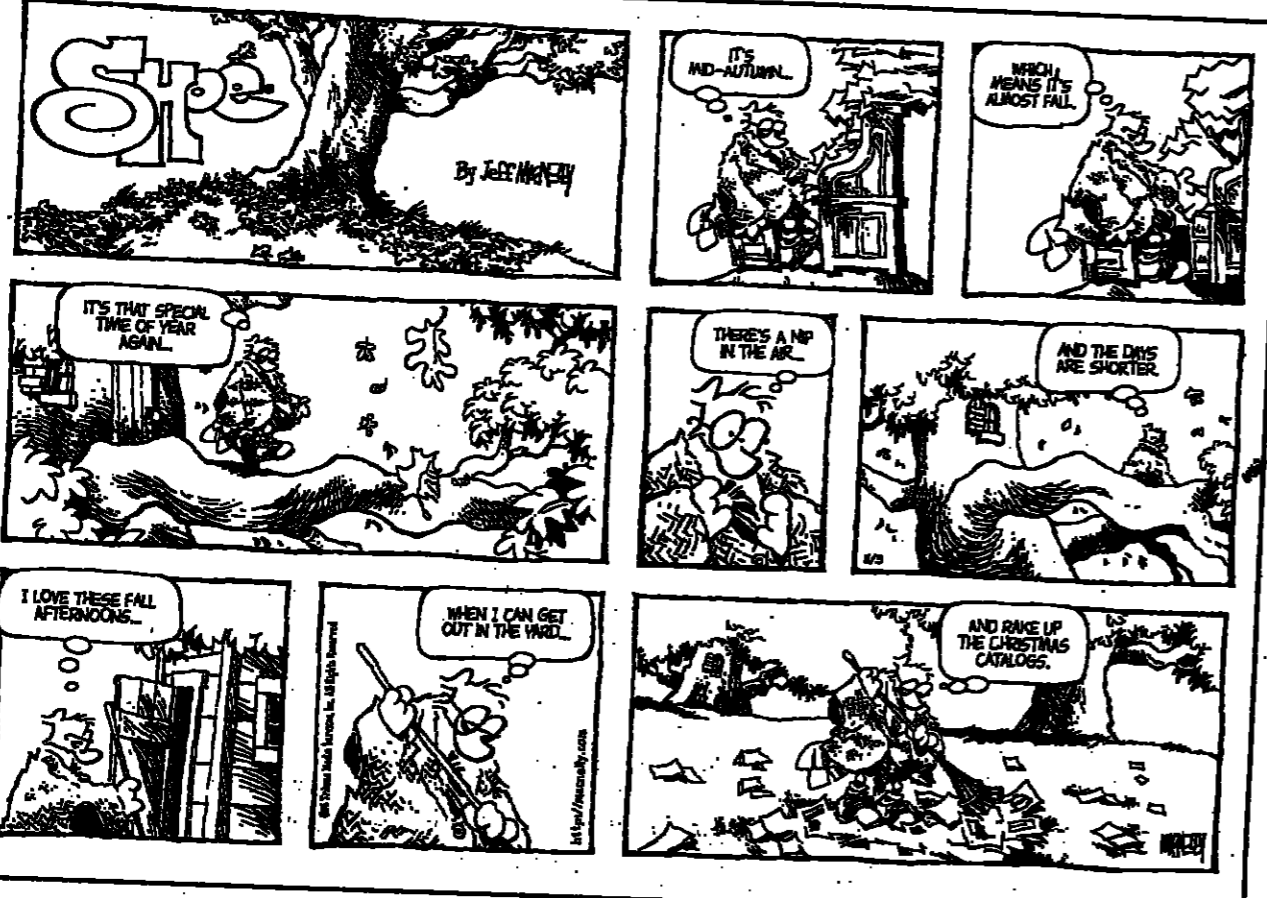
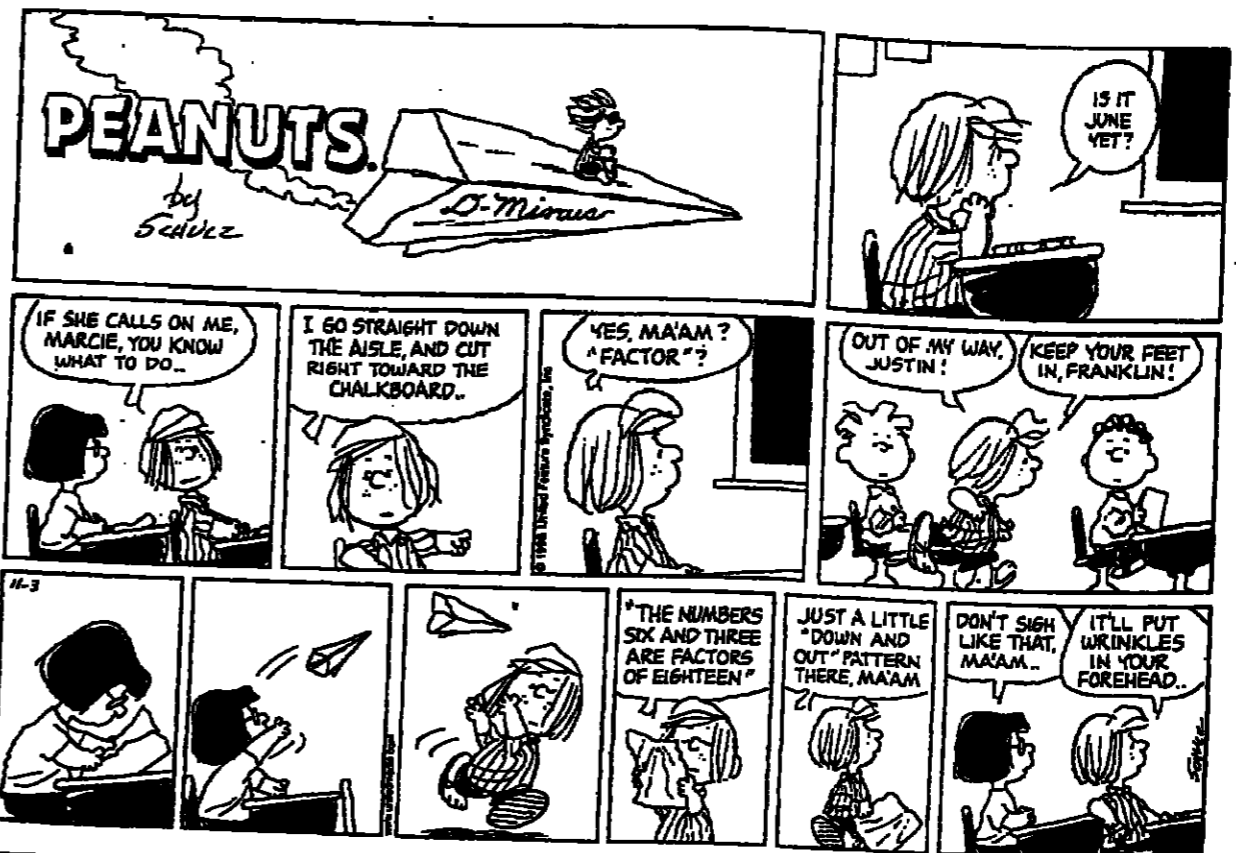
Tim McDaniel is professor of sociology at the University of California, San Diego, and the author, most recently, of *The Agony of the Russian Idea* from Princeton University Press.

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SUNDAY COMICS

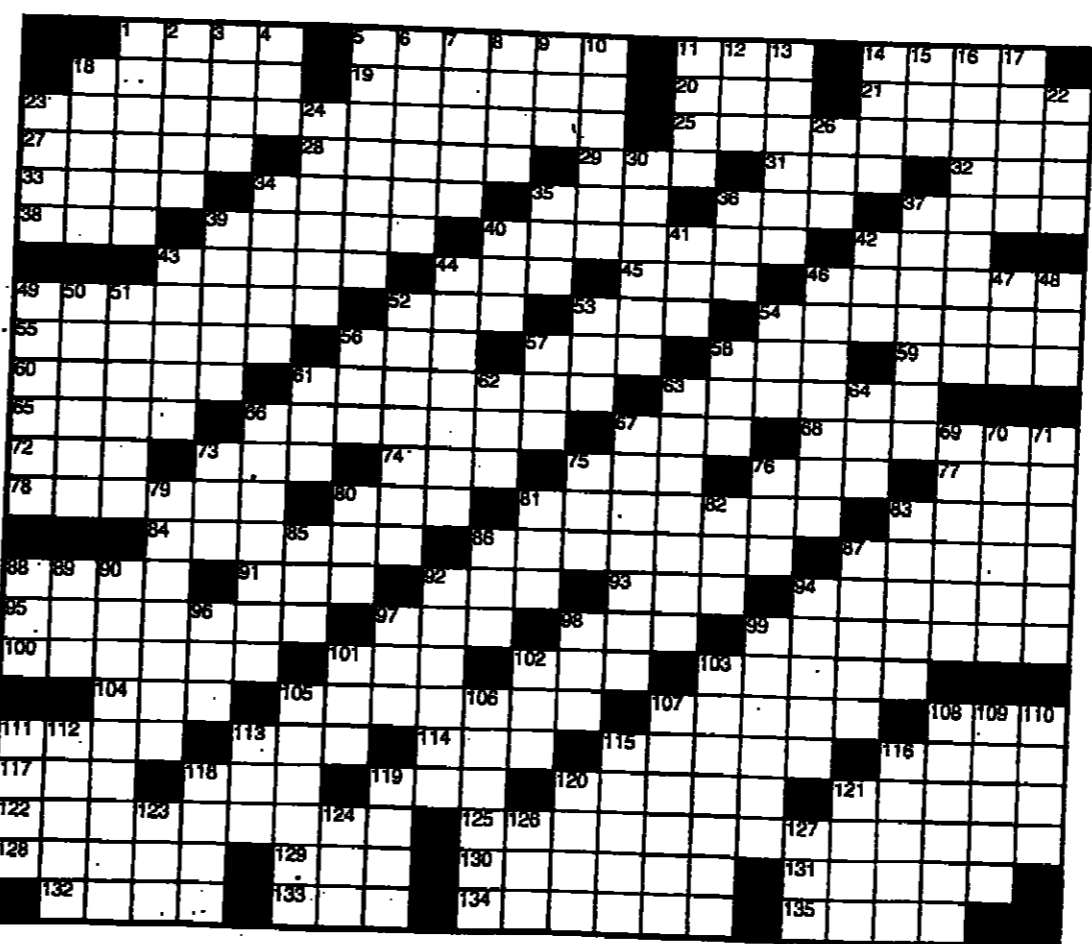
Doonesbury

G.B. TRUDEAU



TODAY'S SUNDAY PUZZLE

- ACROSS**
- 1 18-wheeler
 - 5 Wickerwork material
 - 11 Glass container
 - 14 -- monster
 - 18 Divide
 - 19 On land
 - 20 Actress Thurman
 - 21 Command
 - 23 Susceptible to injury
 - 25 Actress -- Sandra
 - 27 Strong point
 - 28 Bay window
 - 29 And
 - 31 Actress -- Dawn Chong
 - 32 Actress Helen
 - 33 Type of code
 - 34 Hard look
 - 35 Pub serving
 - 36 Family member
 - 37 Wharf
 - 38 Soak (fax)
 - 39 Two times
 - 40 Ironed
 - 42 Young man
 - 43 Sell water
 - 44 Payable
 - 45 Sales or income --
 - 46 Social
 - 49 Apprehending
 - 52 Corn on the cob
 - 53 Pro --
 - 54 Harness horse
 - 55 Cylindrical
 - 56 Ancient
 - 57 Help
 - 58 Antique car
 - 59 Close
 - 60 Elevate
 - 61 Cooking spice
 - 63 Small
 - 65 Formerly, formerly
 - 66 Charge legally
 - 67 Actress Debra
 - 68 For this matter
 - 72 Superlative ending
 - 73 Recede
 - 74 Compass pt
- DOWN**
- 1 "I've Got a --"
 - 2 Broadway musical
 - 3 Ancient Persian
 - 4 Angel
 - 5 Daily grind
 - 6 Have lofty ambitions
 - 7 Numbly for a crowd?
 - 8 Implement
 - 9 Prince Valiant's son
 - 10 Tasse
 - 11 Canoe or Landers
 - 12 Latin I word
 - 13 Overseer
 - 14 Trail carter
 - 15 -- Amn
 - 16 Convert into cash
 - 17 Sharp
 - 18 Make a goal
 - 22 Eye drop
 - 23 In the distance
 - 24 Cheating
 - 25 Author Fleming
 - 30 Took it easy
 - 34 Hogs
 - 35 "We -- the World"
 - 36 School org.
 - 37 Colleague
 - 39 State
 - 40 Tavern
 - 41 American's uncle
 - 42 Zodiac sign
 - 43 French port
 - 44 Evading
 - 45 Asian holiday
 - 47 It's in the bag!
 - 48 It's a human thing to do!
 - 49 Actress Mary --
 - 50 Funeral vehicle
 - 51 Grain beard
 - 52 Not as dirty
 - 53 Spanish uncle
 - 54 Asian holiday
 - 56 Hockey's Bobby --
 - 57 -- Arbor, Michigan
 - 58 Edge
 - 59 Sphere
 - 62 Vital statistic
 - 63 Philadelphia university
 - 64 Allow
 - 66 Body part
 - 67 Inferior boxer
 - 68 Beetle
 - 70 New Orleans university
 - 71 Egg dish
 - 72 Striped fish
 - 75 Rather or Queerly
 - 76 London's Big --
 - 78 Milk ingredient
 - 80 Fall behind
 - 81 La --, Bolivia
 - 82 Carland
 - 83 Postponement
 - 85 Mile
 - 86 " -- Miserables"
 - 87 Bawdy group
 - 88 Actress Barbara --
 - 89 Goddess
 - 90 Doctor's org
 - 91 Bad dream
 - 92 Feet hat
 - 94 From that time
 - 96 Young child
 - 97 -- Rio, Texas
 - 98 Coffee server
 - 99 Type of voyage
 - 101 Decompose
 - 102 Short haircut
 - 103 Certain election
 - 105 Texas-Louisiana river
 - 106 Courage
 - 107 Fossil and
 - 108 Coupled
 - 109 Pronunciation mark
 - 110 Iowa city
 - 111 Alan or Cheryl --
 - 112 Order
 - 113 Favorite
 - 115 Extremely modest person
 - 116 Mary Tyler
 - 118 Dry river bed
 - 119 Greek
 - 120 Obsolete
 - 121 -- the night before...
 - 122 Encouraged
 - 124 Collector's goal
 - 126 Actor Linden
 - 127 Actress Joanne



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Lack of vision actually results in better U.S. foreign policy

BY JACOB HEILBRUNN

It's a ritual of U.S. presidential campaigns: challengers attack incumbents for lacking a foreign-policy vision. Bob Dole, true to form, has called the Clinton administration's actions abroad "rudderless and illusionary." In fact, U.S. foreign policy has been increasingly successful precisely because Bill Clinton has refused to embrace chimerical visions. As a result, he has skillfully piloted the United States through a sea of new world disorder.

Though the Council on Foreign Relations will never admit it, the last thing U.S. foreign policy needs is a grand strategy. When Henry Kissinger, for instance, tried to implement his esoteric theories of triangulation between Washington, Peking and Moscow to create a "new structure of peace," the result was a massive erosion of American prestige and power. Despite the myth that the theory of Soviet containment provided a bipartisan consensus during the postwar era, the reality is that the United States muddled its way through the Cold War. America's dealings with the Soviet Union were almost always ad hoc.

In short, American foreign policy did not suddenly become confusing under Bill Clinton. It has always been confused. And the traits deplored by Clinton's foes — his flexibility and adaptability — are the very ones that make for an impressive foreign-policy record.

Clinton's woes early in his presidency stemmed from his attempt to implement an overarching international strategy. In 1992, Clinton mocked Bush for being a "foreign-policy president," but himself signed on to the attempt to build a "new world order." He ridiculed Bush's failure to intervene in Bosnia and promised to press for human rights in China, Haiti and Cuba. Clinton's solution to this ambitious agenda, which he feared would vitiate his emphasis on domestic issues, was to hand foreign affairs off to the United Nations.

The tone was set by U.S. Undersecretary of State Peter Tarnoff, who called for the retreat of American power around the globe. Tarnoff was quickly muzzled by Warren Christopher, but the Vietnam syndrome spirit of his address lived on. U.N. Ambassador Madeleine Albright and National Security Adviser Anthony Lake concocted a foreign policy called "assertive multilateralism." Rather than acting unilaterally, the United States would bankroll the U.N. to act as gendarme in Somalia, Rwanda and Bosnia. Here was a strategic vision if there ever was one. The consequences were clear: a hapless U.N. sanctioning ethnic cleansing in Bosnia and American rangers dragged through the streets of Mogadishu.

After the oxymoronic "assertive multilateralism" was discredited, things began to turn around for the Clinton administration. Consistent with his ability to change course, Clinton turned to tactical rather than strategic action. And because of the United States' global preeminence, the tactics succeeded. The first sign came in Haiti, where the administration had initially been humiliated when the USS Harlan County, carrying military trainers to respond to demonstrations in Port-au-Prince, was turned back in October 1993 by a pro-government mob. By September 1994 President Clinton, with American troops poised to invade Haiti, stared down the Haitian military junta, paving the path for a democratically elected regime. And in 1994, the United States massed forces in the Persian Gulf in response to Iraqi troop movements near the Kuwait border.

U.S. foreign policy has been increasingly successful precisely because Bill Clinton has refused to embrace chimerical visions. As a result, he has skillfully piloted the United States through a sea of new world disorder.

This wasn't all. In the summer of 1995, after unconscionable dithering, Clinton launched Operation Deliberate Force, which ended up forcing the Serbs to sign the Dayton Peace Accords. The successful NATO air strikes punctured the doomsday scenarios by which any military intervention in the former Yugoslavia would lead us down the slippery slope to Vietnam. Clinton's readiness to deploy military force was again evident this March when he sent two carrier battle groups to counter Chinese saber rattling over the Taiwan straits and, most recently, when he launched cruise missiles against Saddam Hussein.

To hear Republicans tell it, however, Clinton remains a hobbledehoy, struck in the immature foreign policy of what might be called his first term, the period from 1992 to 1994. The transformation that took place during Clinton's "second" term, from 1994-96, has been almost completely ignored. Instead, Republicans complain that Clinton lacks the proper "character" to lead the United States abroad. Writing in the Sept. 22 New York Times Magazine, Owen Harries contends that Clinton "fakes firmness and resolution." Perhaps

the most startling example of Republican intellectual posturing comes in an article in the July/August Foreign Affairs by William Kristol and Robert Kagan. They call for a moralistic and "heroic" foreign policy, based on "elevated patriotism," that "educate(s) the citizenry" about the virtues of militarism and shuns "cowardice and dishonor" in favor of "destroy(ing) many of the world's monsters." This sanctimonious preaching is a recipe for endless and reckless intervention everywhere, which would ultimately wreck the government's capacity to mobilize support for intervening anywhere.

For Clinton, the Republicans' failure to offer an alternative more serious than this hollow, glittering moralism presents a second chance. Foreign policy is not about virtue; it is about power. Clinton's good fortune is that, far from going into decline after the Cold War, the United States has emerged more powerful than at any point in its history.

Foreign policy pundits, a notoriously pompous and capricious breed, will continue to insist that Clinton fashion a grand strategy commensurate with the grandness of American power.

Like his hero FDR, Clinton will have to remain a juggler in foreign policy. Clinton may well discover that his first term was placid compared to what looms in the Middle East, Russia and Asia. As his speech calling for NATO enlargement demonstrates, however, Clinton has finally grasped that foreign policy allows him to appear statesmanlike, while Dole has been reduced to muddling about Clinton's failure to serve in Vietnam. In his historic next term, Clinton, like Reagan, may make his mark in the one sphere in which he can exercise real leadership: foreign policy. Sometimes it takes a visionary to abandon visions.

Jacob Heilbrunn is a senior editor of The New Republic, in which this article first appeared.

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AMERICAN OUTLOOK

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SYNDICATE

Democratic leaders ask for last-minute PAC money

BY ROBERT NOVAK

U.S. Senate and House Democratic leaders Thomas Daschle and Richard Gephardt have been on the telephone, separately and together, seeking 11th-hour corporate political action committee money. Their pitch: We're going to be in the majority come January, so you'd better get aboard.

The Daschle-Gephardt calls were placed to PACs that have been contributing heavily to Republicans but still have \$50,000 or more left in their tills.

Because Democrats will regain control of Congress, the leaders tell CEOs and Washington corporate representatives, perhaps they might want to balance their giving. The response so far has been mixed.

A footnote: Rep. Charles Rangel, a New York liberal who will become chairman of the tax-writing House Ways and Means Committee if the Democrats take over, has been sounding very restrained and moderate in meetings with business representatives.

His demeanor is intended to counteract Republican warnings to contributors that a dangerous radical would be put in charge at Ways and Means.

CAMPAIGN REFORMER DOLE

U.S. Republican political insiders are furious with presidential candidate Bob Dole for blunting the impact of possibly illegal foreign contributions to President Bill Clinton by calling for general campaign reform.

Dole supporters complained that their cries of protest about money pouring in to Clinton from Indonesia were muffled by Dole's sudden emergence as a campaign reformer. But these protesters include corporate lobbyists who have long opposed campaign-finance reform.

A footnote: Staffers on the campaign plane note that Dole, who has maintained his optimism throughout this difficult campaign, appeared dispirited behind the scenes for the first time last week.

CHAIRMAN KEMP?

Georgia State Republican Chairman Rusty Paul has started to tell fellow party leaders from other states that, in the event the Dole-Kemp ticket goes down to defeat, Jack Kemp should succeed Haley Barbour as chairman of the Republican National Committee.

During the Bush administration, Paul served under Housing Secretary Kemp as a deputy assistant secretary. He argues that his old boss' idealism would correct the mean-spirited image of the GOP and raise the morale of a losing party.

Barbour, who has made clear he will not seek another term as national chairman, appears to be leaning toward Florida State Chairman Tom Slade as his successor. Slade would be more of a technician than a cheerleader.

CANDIDATE ARMEY?

Friends of House Majority Leader Dick Armeay say he will consider seeking the Republican presidential nomination in 2000 if President Clinton is re-elected.

Armeay is said to be appalled the GOP waged the 1996 election campaign without pushing a plan of comprehensive tax reform. The author of a flat-tax plan rejected by Bob Dole, Armeay says privately he should have become a candidate this year.

Armeay faces no opposition to be re-elected as GOP floor leader. If the party loses control of the House, he will become the chamber's top Republican. House Speaker Newt Gingrich has said he has no desire to be minority leader in a Democratic-dominated House.

SECRETARY DODD?

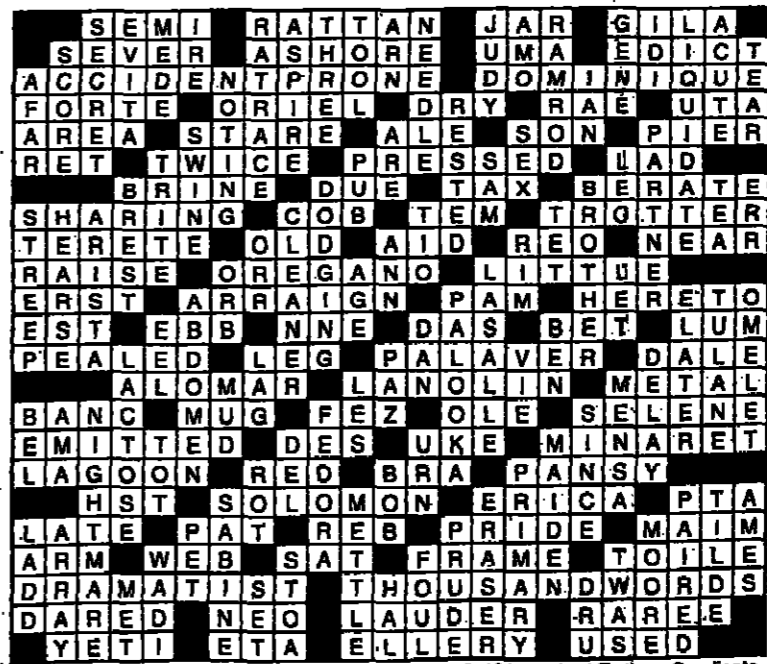
Prominent Republicans have been trying to promote news accounts saying that Sen. Christopher Dodd will become secretary of state in a Clinton second-term administration. The reason: the tough fight for Florida's electoral votes.

Dodd is extremely unpopular among Florida's Cuban-American voters because of his conciliatory position toward Fidel Castro. Clinton has made inroads within the normally Republican Cuban vote and this week paid his first visit in four years to Miami's "Little Havana" section.

Actually, there is no sign that Dodd is on Clinton's list of possible successors to Secretary of State Warren Christopher. But associates say he might be interested in a bid for the presidency in 2000.

Robert Novak is a syndicated columnist of the Chicago Sun-Times.

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The brave of the Kovno ghetto

THERE AND THEN
SRAYA SHAPIRO

EXCEPT for being caught by the Germans, the worst eventually that the escapees from the Kovno ghetto could encounter when fleeing to the forest was to fall into the hands of the Russian-led groups of partisans.

"Smirnov," the commanding officer of the battalion made fun of the weapons the Jewish escapees obtained at great risk: "One does not fight the Germans with pistols," he jeered. He ordered them to hand over gold and valuables they had brought with them, and Sergeant Bondar searched their knapsacks and bags as thoroughly as the Germans did at the ghetto gate.

The Jews were detailed to carry wood for the battalion - none of the Russians did it. The Jews were weak, with swollen bellies because of unwholesome food; they suffered from scurvy and diarrhea.

The Russian commanders had everything: Their food was cooked in a separate kitchen. The only way for the Jews to survive was to go on missions away from their base, and get whatever food they could from the local villagers. Nor could they depend on medical assistance: "Nurse Ania," who was in charge, had been just a cleaner in a hospital.

That was what a runaway from Kovno ghetto reported to Chaim Yellin, the leader of the Communist-sponsored secret underground in the ghetto. Yellin's reaction was, "Don't tell anybody!"

The conversation is one of the innumerable incidents reported by Alex Fattelson in *Heroism and Bravery in Lithuania, 1941-45*. This 432-page account of what happened in the Kovno ghetto under Nazi occupation is published by Gefen, Jerusalem, and is the English version (by Ethel Brodov) of the previously published Yiddish original.

While still a pupil of the Tarbut Hebrew school, Fattelson joined the illegal Communist organization in his native Lithuania, switching from a radical Zionist group called Brit Hakanyaim ("Zealot League").



Residents of the Kovno ghetto line up at the soup kitchen where free hot soup was dished out daily.

(Zvi Kadushin)

Russians' antisemitism is rather naive: They were incited, he claims, by the Germans when they were in POW camps. He should have been better informed about the indigenous antisemitism in the Soviet Union. Indeed, some of the top officers in the partisan units were flown in by the Red Army from the USSR. Apart from a few, the bulk of Russians were rabid antisemites, Fattelson admits.

Colonel Fedor Markov decided to establish a Jewish unit, which was named "Miest" (Vengeance). Another officer created a unit to deal with traitors. Suspects were tried and executed - sometimes, it seems, without formal sentence and just under the stress of events. And executions were occasionally performed by this Jewish underground within the ghetto when circumstances indicated Jews had been passing on information to the Nazis.

Life was in a frenzy even at the quietest periods, with the prospect of ending life in a death camp appearing a certainty day and night. Business prospered, contacts were made frantically at chance openings in the barbed-wire fence. Flour, potatoes, meat, vodka, were obtained for the ghetto dwellers at fantastic prices. There was merrymaking too, the atmosphere being: "Let's drink and eat, for tomorrow we die."

One Eli Shmuelov, his hair bleached fair, established a contact base in the ghetto part of Kovno. The Gestapo, informed by its secret agents, surrounded his flat. The battle lasted several hours.

In August 1943, Himmler ordered the transfer of everybody from the ghetto to concentration camps. Zionists, who managed most of the ghetto organizations, according to Fattelson, were cau-

tious at first, but soon decided to leave the ghetto as quickly as possible.

However, few joined the partisans in the forest under the influence of Hirsh Levin, a leader of the Revisionists, says Fattelson. "The notion that there was a general fighting organization among the Jews was far from the truth," asserts Fattelson, who leaves few occasions to inject a snide observation on Zionism.

Fattelson himself was taken to Fort Nine, where he joined a group of detainees who burned the bodies of murdered Jews. It was clear to them that the corpse burners too would be killed in turn. Miraculously, Fattelson organized an escape - by digging a tunnel - and joined the partisans. After the war, he settled in Israel.

Another book of reminiscences from the Holocaust days, published by Gefen, is Hana

Greenfield's *Retzah Beyom Kippur* ("Murder on the Day of Atonement, 74 pp.). She was born in Czechoslovakia and was interned with her family first at Theresin camp, and later in Bergen-Belsen. She alone survived.

In January 1946, she visited her uncle who, by pure chance, was on a lecture tour in Cambridge when the war began. He came to greet her at the airport and she immediately told him of all the horrors of the transports and of camp life miseries.

"Gently my uncle calmed me, 'Don't tell of your sufferings when we meet my children,' he admonished me. 'Try to forget!'" "I wanted to cry. My agony burned in me. I wanted to be consoled. To be understood. And here one advises me to forget!" She did not stay long with her uncle.

The search for a common denominator

There is an arena where the secular, haredim and national religious sit together and try to develop a better relationship, Daniel J. Chalfen reports

THERE are two of you in the desert. You have a bottle of water. The entire bottle is necessary to keep just one of you alive. If you share it, you both die. What do you do? This is the problem posed to the audience at the first English-speaking meeting of Common Denominator, a group dedicated to bridging the divide between the secular and the religious.

A couple of haredim enter the hall. One pulls up a seat next to a stocky, pony-tailed man. "To make this work," continues Shmuli Schwartz, "you have to play by the rules of the game - no titles or labels. Controversial issues are reserved for final-status talks, and no blame, anger or calling names."

Two trainee rabbis, a male and a female, greet people at the door to the hall. At first, the audience seems dominated by men in knitted kippot and women in long denim skirts. Still, everyone circulates easily, even the occasional bareheaded man, or a female dressed slightly seductively. The mix of religious and secular brings the atmosphere of a fancy-dress party and seems as if a contrived effort has been made for the group to appear "mixed" to an outsider.

Common Denominator was founded last year to mend the rift between left and right, secular and religious. If the divisions have become more pressing, after an attack on a Bnei Brak synagogue that was daubed with slogans including "Death to the religious and haredim," and the assaults in Mea She'arim on two dozen women the haredim deemed were dressed immodestly.

The group's leaders include a founder of Dor Shalem, a rabbi from Aish Hatorah Yeshiva, and an adviser to the Ministry of Religious Affairs under the Labor government. They believe society's stability is threatened by factional conflict. Their solution is to unify the nation by focusing on areas of agreement, overcoming prejudice and intolerance, and identifying shared values.

That is, finding common denominators. The group is not alone in its aims, but its success so far is marked. In the last nine months, Common Denominator has brought together over 8,000 Jews from across the political and religious spectrum. It took Meretz supporters to Mea She'arim for Shabbat, organized workshops on kabbuzim and moshavim, and is beginning to work with Bar-Ilan University.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is due to address the group's next major event. To skeptics, it all looks like a bunch of innocents whose superficial meetings tackle over-ambitious issues. How will they achieve anything tangible? Which of the desert wanderers will be given life?

"First we build the relationship, then we start to solve the problem," says Pam Cohen, an ex-adviser to the state, now one of the organizers of the group. "When you have a relationship, it affects your behavior. If Rabin and Arafat had discussed Jerusalem the first time they sat down to talk, they would never have met again. By discussing more neutral problems first, they were able to establish a relationship and continue their dialogue."

And there's the initial quibble about the water-bottle problem -

what is your relationship to the other person? Concepts of love and hate are tossed around freely as the audience begins to discuss them - are they purely emotional, or can they be intellectualized? "Isn't the problem that we categorize everything and don't take things for their individual worth?" says one woman. "Is attachment to a particular group not a natural desire?" says another.

Another group follows a different path. "Is intellectualizing love or hate not just a cover-up for thinking emotionally? If so, and if such sentiment can only be seen as emotion, is it unexplicable, and necessarily uncompromising?"

The example of a concentration camp is given as a place where both intellect and emotion lead to hatred of the guards. But Nazi Germany also is cited to show how a change in the political framework severed the connections between Germans and Jews that had been built over the years.

So how far and under what circumstances can a relationship persist? Making friends is all well and good, but once the situation changes, one of the desert wanderers has to drink the water or face death. Once Rehov Bar-Ilan is closed or an agreement on Hebron is reached, will the Meretz supporter and the haredi still be able to connect with each other?

David Geffen, a haredi, compares the issue to his relationship with his wife. "We signed a covenant, and because of our deep love for each other we can see our way through any problems."

He has a list of 118 reasons why he loves his wife, but he says that if they couldn't solve their problems, there's always divorce. But he is positive. "I believe that 99 percent of the population are good and can love. Only 1%, maybe only one person, has the capacity to hate. Creating connections will help individuals deal with each other."

Individuals, perhaps. But society falls into groups. Moti Chavert, a founder of Dor Shalem, makes it clear. "When I was at my first meeting, I saw people angry, intolerant. As they talked of noncontroversial issues, though, people began to enjoy each other's company, to build up mutual respect. As people came to more meetings, they developed connections with each other that soon made them sympathetic to each other's perspectives."

Chavert will not discuss politics at all. He left Dor Shalem, because after the May elections Yuval Rabin steered the group towards a political rather than educational agenda.

And Geffen and Chavert, despite their diverse worldviews, can empathize with each other, and provide the dynamic, working proof that common denominators can be found. "We have come up with solutions that will keep everyone happy," says Geffen, gesturing wildly and opening his arms in preparation for his announcement. "We could build a tunnel under Bar-Ilan, or even a bridge."

But what about the desert wanderers and the bottle of water? Whatever their relationship, a fatal decision still must be made. The value of each of their separate existences has to be compared and weighed up. Unfortunately, at least one of the two still has to die.

Inbreeding is okay

HEADS 'N' TAILS
D'VORA BEN SHAUL

A reader tells us that her French poodle, a female of the standard size, was accidentally bred by its own son, also a pure breed. The bitch is now going to have puppies and the reader asks if there isn't a real danger of the puppies being defective due to the close relationship between the parents.

In truth, she has little to worry about. Unless the dogs are carrying some serious defect that might be inherited, she will probably get very nice French poodle puppies despite the fact that the parents are mother and son. A good deal of inbreeding goes on in dogs, and, in fact, almost all domestic animals and also some in their natural habitat.

Generally, when operating a breeding program, one wants a wide-based gene pool to draw from, breeding from animals that are totally unrelated genetically. This lessens the possibility of the offspring inheriting the same unwanted characteristic from both parents. But, when one breeds really superior stock, then one often wants to narrow the gene pool by breeding genetically related animals in order to increase the probability of the offspring inheriting desired characteristics from both parents.

able genes there to be inherited and, in fact, careful inbreeding can result in truly superior stock when the animals bred are largely carriers of highly desirable genes in the first place.

Because of the almost universal taboo against incest in humans, many people have drawn the erroneous conclusion that all inbreeding leads to defective offspring, and in the case of humans this is more likely than not to happen. It would also happen in animals if the inbreeding were done at random and all sorts of defective animals were inbred. But in the case of carefully structured animal breeding programs, a great deal of selection for stock as near perfect as possible has already taken place before the inbreeding starts.

But, all this works only when it is undertaken by a breeder with a firm basis in genetics and only in a carefully monitored breeding program. Inadvertent or inadequately planned and monitored inbreeding has in many cases produced offspring of a decidedly inferior quality.

One of the classic examples of this is the appearance of the "dwarf snorter syndrome," a form of gigantism in beef cattle in the US. Because breeders relied too heavily on only a few bulls - and these bulls were all related genetically - for artificial insemination of their cattle, they almost destroyed their herds by passing this diseased state to nearly every animal in the herd.

One has to always remember that genetic inheritance is somewhat like a roulette wheel, and if one wants to "play the odds" it is best to know exactly what one is doing.

Antisemitism joins mudslinging in New Hampshire campaigns

THE nastiness of the New Hampshire Senate race has achieved one unintended result - voters don't particularly like either candidate.

With a week to go before the election, Democratic candidate Dick Swett has a slight lead over the Republican incumbent, Senator Bob Smith, in a race still considered a toss-up. They are also running neck and neck in turning off voters by calling each other liars and hurling accusations of racism, antisemitism and extremism.

The race figures prominently in Democratic hopes to regain control of the Senate. While New Hampshire offers only four electoral votes and usually goes Republican, President Clinton, Vice President Gore and their wives have visited the state in an attempt to help Swett.

A poll for WMUR-TV last week had Swett receiving 44 percent of the vote to Smith's 39 percent, a statistical dead heat, since the poll had a margin of error of plus or minus 4 percentage points.

Both were viewed unfavorably by as many voters as viewed them favorably - roughly 40 percent for and against each one. "Neither one of them is very attractive," poll director Kelly Myers said. "Rarely do you see both candidates with higher unfavorable ratings [than favorable ratings]."

In one recent forum, the two voiced common support on such issues as a balanced budget, the line-item veto and the death

penalty for drug dealers. But that didn't stop Swett from labeling Smith "extreme" with a "far-right-wing record" and Smith from countering that the battle of their opposing philosophies was a "fight to the death."

It's apparent, the *Manchester Union-Leader* said, that the two have developed a real "disdain" for one another. The animosity reached a peak after Swett's father-in-law, US Representative Tom Lantos, a California Democrat, twice sent fund-raising letters to Jews on Swett's behalf, saying Smith voted against aid to Israel.

"He sent out a disgusting piece of literature accusing me, implying that I'm an antisemite, that I'm a bigot, that I'm a racist," Smith said. "My father died in the Second World War trying to get Dick Swett's father-in-law - out of those camps."

Lantos, born a Hungarian Jew, is a survivor of the Holocaust. Swett shot back that Lantos escaped without the elder Smith's help and said the incumbent was panicking because he might lose.

Swett eventually apologized for inflammatory aspects of the first mailing last year, but defended the second. "We never sent out any letter accusing him of being antisemitic. What we are saying is, he is very, very conservative," he said.

Swett, 39, was elected to the House of Representatives in 1990 but was ousted in the 1994 Republican landslide. He characterizes himself as a fiscal conser-

vative who opposes tax hikes and favors a balanced budget. He has tried one new twist in the campaign, "work days" spent as a lobbyist, waiter, firefighter and chimney sweep "to get a better understanding of the challenges facing working families."

Smith, 55, who served three terms in the House before winning a Senate seat in 1990, has solid conservative credentials. He's a strong advocate of more defense spending, and once illustrated his outspoken opposition to abortion by waving a plastic fetus on the Senate floor.

Smith blames Swett for starting the mudslinging. "I'm not the one who runs around the state using terms like 'wild, irrational animal' and 'disgrace.' His campaign slogan has a torch on it. That's not a torch, that's a flamethrower," he said.

With the public obviously disenchanted by the vitriol, both camps have tried a different tack in the final days of the campaign, going from the mean to the meekish.

Smith's campaign is airing an ad in which his wife, Mary Jo, describes how Smith's father died in a World War II plane crash when Smith was three and calls her husband "a great dad" who enjoys children.

Swett's new ad recalls his ordeal three years ago when his then three-year-old daughter was found to have a 3.15-kilogram tumor on her liver. It turned out to be benign and was removed.

(AP)

THE POMEGRANATE PENDANT: A Historical Novel by Dvora Waysman

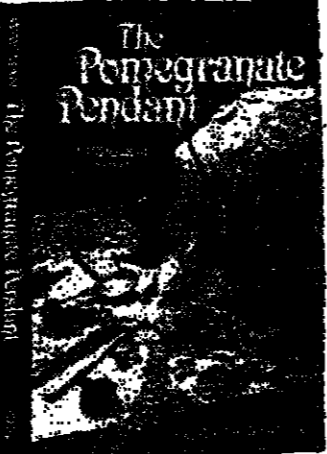
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NFL individual leaders

Table with columns for AFC and NFC leaders in various categories like Rushing, Passing, Receiving, etc.

Team statistics

Table showing team statistics for AFC and NFC, including total yards, rushing, passing, and defense.

NFL standings

Table showing NFL standings for AFC and NFC, including wins, losses, and percentages.

This week's schedule

Table listing the NFL schedule for the week, including matchups and locations.

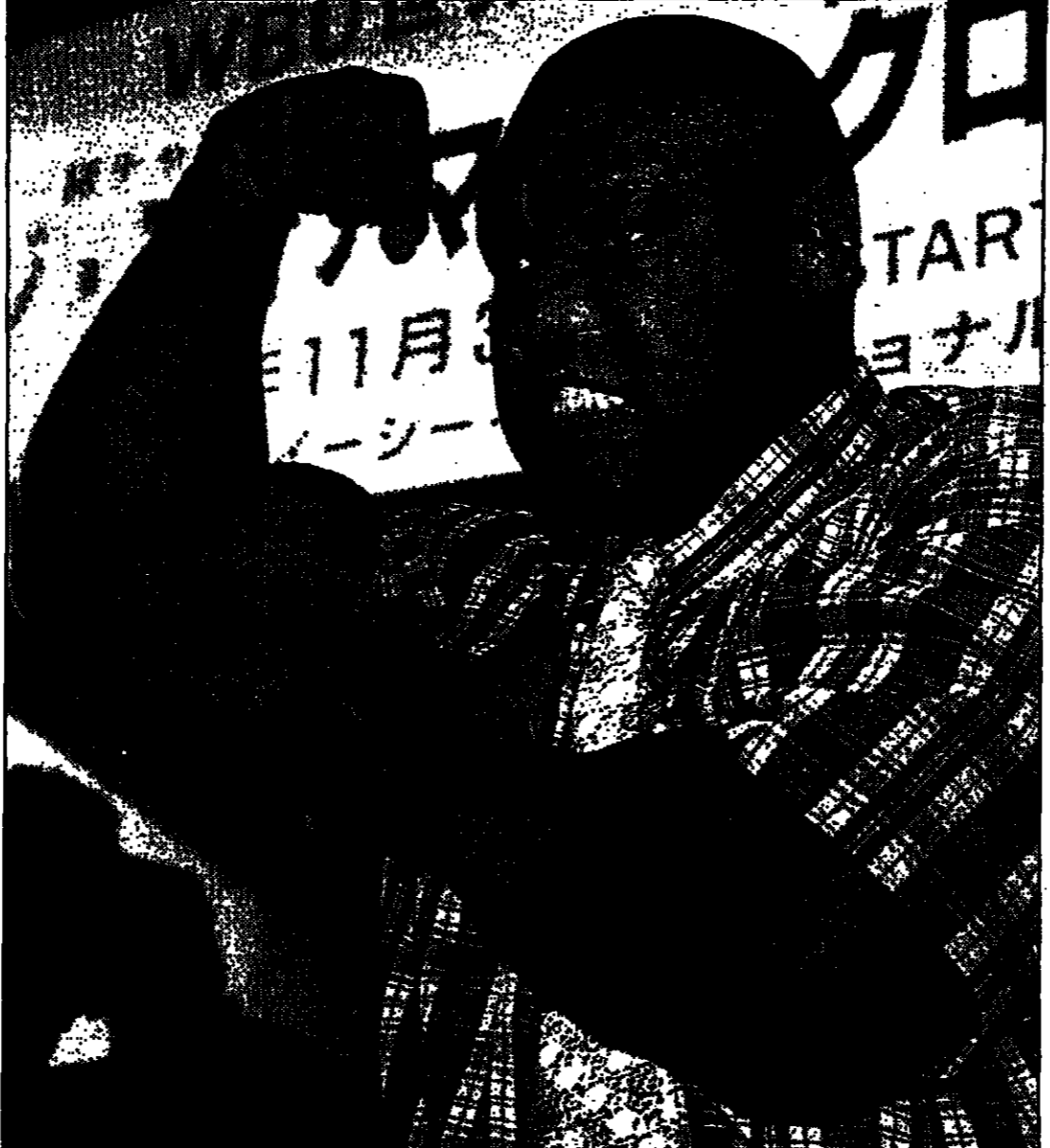
Bulls, Knicks hot in NBA's 50th season

TORONTO (Reuters) - The NBA opened its season celebrating its 50th anniversary with a touch of nostalgia in Toronto's loss to the New York Knicks on Friday...



LA DEBUT - Shaquille O'Neal (r) looks to pass around the Suns' A.C. Green.

FRIDAY'S RESULTS: Chicago 107, Boston 98; Detroit 95, Indiana 89; Miami 94, Atlanta 81...



READY TO RUMBLE - George Foreman is pumped for his fight against Crawford Grimsley today.

Foreman: I'm fighting for truth

HIV-positive Morrison on undercard

TOKYO (AP) - George Foreman says his bout against Crawford Grimsley (20-0) today is also a fight to boost the prestige of the little-known World Boxing Union and return honesty to the sport.

South African soccer rocked by corruption

JOHANNESBURG (Reuters) - South African soccer success after decades of isolation has contrasted starkly with tales of deep intrigue in the administration of the country's favorite sport.

Study: Belle is the best

CLEVELAND (AP) - Albert Belle says look at the numbers, not his rap sheet. And rankings that show Belle is the top player in the majors sure don't hurt his case.

SPORTS

Hapoel PT drops 1st points

Taiba beaten 3-0, match with Bet. J'lem passes without incident

DESPITE all the fears, the eighth round of action in the National League passed relatively quietly for all concerned. The crowd trouble which was feared in the clash between Hapoel Taiba and Maccabi Haifa at Kiryat Eliezer on Friday failed to materialize. There were some minor incidents, however, including one in which Taiba fans attacked a Betar supporter after the match which ended in a 3-0 win for Betar.

Facescutors Hapoel Petah Tikva mamantain their lead in the standings despite fearing that this week might see them lose for the first time this season.

The match against Maccabi Tel Aviv ended in a 1-1 draw, but it is the Tel Avivians who may feel hard done by after letting several scoring chances go begging. Maccabi Haifa gained another important three points in its effort to climb back up the standings, but in so doing, handed Maccabi Herzliya yet another defeat in which they failed to score, the seventh time out of eight in which the Herzliyanis have ended a match with a zero next to their name. Hap. PT 1, Mac. Tel Aviv 1.

Petah Tikva dropped its first points of the season to Maccabi Tel Aviv in the draw in Petah Tikva.

The 100 percent record which the league leaders had held for seven weeks was expected to fall this time round and it was only luck that allowed them even one point from the encounter. Maccabi had several chances to score more than just the one goal which beat Shai Hess as Ofer Mizrahi missed at least two comfortable chances and Nir Sivilia hit the crossbar once.

The first half was played mainly in midfield with neither side managing to take clear control of proceedings, although Maccabi looked slightly the more confident side, while the youngsters from Petah Tikva appeared as if they still can't believe that they are leading the standings.

Hess made a brilliant instinctive save to deny Sivilia in the 55th minute, but captain Eli Driks managed to head the ball in from the resulting corner as Hess was caught off his line.

A minute later, Petah Tikva's Manor Hassan struck a superb volley from 19 meters which lobbed over Maccabi goalkeeper Alain Masharki and into the goal. Maccabi, in particular, tried to press for the win but were unable to find a way past Hess, who stood firm in the Petah Tikva goal.

ORI LEWIS

Maccabi paid a price for its over-zealous efforts. Driks got himself sent off in injury time for a second bookable offense on a Petah Tikva defender after rising to head a corner.

Hap. Taiba 0, Bet. Jerusalem 3. The problems anticipated by police never occurred as the two sides took the field at Kiryat Eliezer on Friday.

The match between the club symbolizing Israel's political right and Taiba of the Arab sector was played in front of 13,000 spectators who supported and chanted, sometimes with politically-charged slogans, but there was never any question of violence, and the police was there in force - some 400 of them - to make sure the match would be played to its conclusion without disruption.

Three ticket tows, two from Jerusalem and one from Kiryat Ata, were arrested before kickoff. After the match, two Taiba supporters were arrested after they attacked a Betar supporter in his car, breaking some of the car's windows. The fan was taken to hospital where he was treated for light injuries and then released. On the field, Betar was by far the better side and translated its advantage into three goals by Stefan Saloi.

The first came in the 19th minute when the Hungarian midfielder headed into Mickey Dahsn's net from a free kick taken by Itzik Zohar. Six minutes later, Saloi slotted home after receiving a good through ball from Yossi Abukiss.

Taiba's Nassim Akbaria was sent off for a second bookable offense in the 28th minute and one minute later, Saloi completed his hat trick with a low shot after receiving a pass from David Amsalem.

Taiba's efforts to gain the initiative proved fruitless as the Jerusalemis continued to attack and were superior in all departments. The home side, with just 10 men, realized it had no chance of winning the match and concentrated on limiting the damage already inflicted.

Hap. Beit She'an 0

Nir Shikva finished off the first Rishon move to score in the sixth minute. In the opening few minutes, Beit She'an was looking for the early breakthrough but once Shikva had scored,

Hap. Kfar Sava 0

Resurgent Beersheba put an end to Kfar Sava's four-game winning streak and looked by far the better side. Siad Halilovic, the Negev side's dangerous midfielder scored the only goal of Friday's match in Kfar Sava, a solo effort in the 76th minute.

Hap. Jerusalem 1, Mac. PT 2. The Jerusalemites' hopes of continuing to grace the upper quarters of the National League standings against all the odds were put to an end by Petah Tikva, who were undoubtedly the better side in Friday's clash at Teddy Stadium.

Jerusalem's Motti Menahem gave the small band of home supporters some hope of another unexpected win when he scored in the 22nd minute. It was Menahem's fourth goal of the season.

Petah Tikva brought Jerusalem down to earth a minute before the break when Guy Yitzhak equalized from a free kick.

Petah Tikva's Idan Tal, formerly of Hapoel Jerusalem, was the outstanding player on the pitch and made life difficult for the hosts. Petah Tikva's winner was a cracking shot from Morad Abu Kishak in the 68th minute.

The coachless visitors will take heart from their performance, particularly as they were egged on from the sidelines by the club's chairman Avi Luzon and his board-member brother, Amos. Petah Tikva hopes to sign Uri Malmilian to take over the manager's job today. Malmilian, who was not present yesterday, was in charge of Hapoel Jerusalem together with its current coach, Yossi Mizrahi, last season.

Zafirim Holon 0

Meir Ben-Margi put visitors Bnei Yehuda ahead in the 69th minute as Holon was completely outplayed throughout the match. Alon Mizrahi made sure of gaining all three points a minute from time when he converted a penalty. Mizrahi was himself fouled in the area by a Holon defender.

After the match, Holon coach Meir Nimni asked to be relieved from his duties, saying there was no way he could continue coaching a club lacking the ability to buy foreign players needed to give them a chance of survival.

Ironi Rishon 1

Hap. Beit She'an 0. Nir Shikva finished off the first Rishon move to score in the sixth minute. In the opening few minutes, Beit She'an was looking for the early breakthrough but once Shikva had scored,

Hap. Tel Aviv 0, Hap. Haifa 1. Lady luck is not on Hapoel Tel Aviv's side! On Friday, the Hadrut announced it was firing the management committee and Hadrut financial controller Shlomo Goldner after they were alleged to have thwarted plans to sell off the club to investors.

Yesterday, on the pitch, a dismal own goal from Brazilian defender Leon Bourard, which in itself was a spectacular effort, saw Haifa to a victory. Bourard rose high in an attempt to head away a cross by Haifa's Alon Halfon, but instead, found the back of the net, leaving Shaiv Eilimelech helpless.

Mac. Haifa 2, Mac. Herzliya 0. Haifa did just enough to beat bottom side Herzliya, meaning that this was not a good game. Herzliya has still scored only one goal all season - in last week's loss to Hapoel Petah Tikva - and the renewed faith in coach Gil Landau is already under question.

Sergei Belenchuk rose high above the Herzliya defense to score Haifa's first goal in the 19th minute. Herzliya tried to do something about its plight, but it was fruitless.

Only Oleg Neduda threatened Haifa with some competent runs; otherwise, it was a lame effort by Herzliya. Things got much worse after the break, when the visitors were reduced to 10 men when Tomer Anzani was sent off for a second offense in the 53rd minute. A defensive error in the 71st minute allowed Avishai Janno to score Haifa's second goal.



Michael Duberry (12) scores the opening goal against Manchester United at Old Trafford yesterday. United 'keeper Peter Schmeichel and David May (4) defend. Eric Cantona (7) looks on.

Reds lose at home to Chelsea; Arsenal remains top

Tottenham, Villa, Leeds win

LONDON (AP) - Manchester United crumbled to its fourth loss in a row yesterday, beaten 2-1 by Chelsea at Old Trafford three days after its first home loss in European competition.

Some 55,000 fans saw goals by defender Michael Duberry and Italian striker Gianluca Vialli put Chelsea into a 2-0 lead before substitute Karel Poborsky replied for the Reds nine minutes from the end.

The result meant more misery for United manager Alex Ferguson who has seen his team lose 5-0 at Newcastle, 6-3 at Southampton, 1-0 at home to Turkish club Fenerbahce in the Champions League and now to Chelsea which leapt from fifth into sixth in the standings.

With 19 points from 12 games, the defending titlist is now six behind leader Arsenal, which scored a 2-2 tie at fourth-place Wimbledon after twice taking the lead at Selhurst Park.

Ian Wright and Paul Merson put the Gunners in front only for Vinnie Jones and Marcus Gayle to hit back for the home team.

Arsenal now has 25 points from 12 games and can be overtaken today by second-place Newcastle, which is one point behind and hosts neighbor Middlesbrough; or third place Liverpool, which has two games in hand, and visits last-place Blackburn.

Seventh-place Aston Villa maintained its challenge with a 2-0 vic-

tory over struggling Nottingham Forest, which slipped to second from last. Defender Carl Tiler netted against his former club and Trinidad and Tobago international striker scored the second.

With United States international goalkeeper away on World Cup duty, Leicester tumbled 2-0 at Derby in a meeting of two promoted clubs. Ashley Ward and an own goal by Leicester defender Mike Whitlow gave Derby the points.

Chris Armstrong's sixth goal of the season gave Tottenham a 1-0 victory over West Ham while Leeds halted its slide with a 3-0 victory over Sunderland with strikes by Mark Ford, Lee Sharpe and Brian Deane.

Former England international goalkeeper Chris Woods, on loan from MLS team Colorado Rapids, made his debut for Southampton in a 1-1 tie with Sheffield Wednesday.

John Newsome fired Wednesday ahead before Matt Le Tissier leveled with a penalty.

The other two Premier League teams, Everton and next-to-last Coventry meet tomorrow.

Bolton, relegated from the Premier League last season, moved six points clear of its rivals in division one after downing Huddersfield 2-0.

Aston Villa 2 Nottingham Forest 0 (1-0) Carl Tiler gave Villa the lead against his old club, prodding the

ball home from Dwight Yorke's free kick after 20 minutes. Yorke scored the second in the 65th minute with an overhead kick from a corner which wasn't properly cleared, 35,310.

Derby 2, Leicester 0 (0-0) Ashley Ward fired Derby ahead 10 minutes into the second half from Christian Dailly's headed cross. A minute from the end, Leicester defender Mike Whitlow tried to keep out a goal-bound cross by Dean Sturridge but wound up turning it over his own goal line, 18,010.

Leeds 3, Sunderland 0 (1-0) Mark Ford headed his first goal for Leeds from a cross by Rod Wallace in the 27th minute. Lee Sharpe hit the second in the 62nd after Sunderland failed to clear a free kick and Brian Deane, playing his first game since the opening day of the season, headed home the third six minutes later, 31,667.

Manchester United 1 Chelsea 2 (1-0) Michael Duberry rose unchal-

lenge to meet a corner from Dennis Wise and headed past Peter Schmeichel in the 31st minute. Gianluca Vialli beat the outside trap to run clear and fire the second in the 61st. United defender David May had a header cleared off the line before substitute Karel Poborsky netted with a volley which was deflected into the Chelsea net nine minutes from

the end, 55,198.

Sheffield Wednesday 1 Southampton 1 (1-0) Wednesday's John Newsome fired home from close range after a right wing cross by Dutch midfielder Orlando Trustfull. Matt Le Tissier leveled from the penalty spot five minutes into the second half after Norwegian forward Egil Ostenstad had been tripped by Newsome, 20,106.

Tottenham 1, West Ham 0 (0-0) West Ham's usually reliable Croatian defender Slaven Bilic, allowed a harmless looking through ball from Spurs' Allan Nielsen to go through to goalkeeper Lukde Miklosko in the 67th minute but the ball was nowhere near the 'keeper and Chris Armstrong took advantage of the blunder to run through and score, 32,999.

Wimbledon 2, Arsenal 2 (1-1) Ian Wright, recalled to the England squad for the World Cup game against Georgia next Saturday, ran onto Patrick Vieira's pass to shoot the Gunners ahead in the sixth minute for his 13th goal of the season. Vinnie Jones leveled a minute before half-time with a close range header from Neil Ardley's free kick. Paul Merson restored Arsenal's lead in the 64th minute from a good run and pass by Wright. Four minutes later it was 2-2 when Marcus Gayle forced the ball over the line in a scramble in front of the Arsenal net, 25,521.

Division One Bolton 2, Huddersfield 0; Bradford 0, Oldham 3; Norwich 1, Charlton 2; Oxford United 3, Ipswich 1; Port Vale 3, Birmingham 0; Portsmouth 4, West Bromwich Albion 0; Queens Park Rangers 1, Stoke 1; Southend 2, Reading 1; Swindon 2, Manchester City 0; Tranmere 1, Crystal Palace 3; Wolves 3, Barnsley 3.

Division Two Bournemouth 1, Bury 1; Bristol Rovers 0, Gillingham 0; Crewe 3, Wycombe 0; Millwall 1, Walsall 0; Notts County 1, Shrewsbury 2; Peterborough 0, Blackpool 0; Plymouth 3, Luton 3; Preston 0, Rotherham 0; Stockport 1, Bristol City 1; Watford 2, Brentford 0; Wrexham 3, Chesterfield 2; York 1, Burnley 0.

Division Three Carlisle 0, Wigan 3; Chester 1, Cardiff 1; Darlington 1, Scarborough 1; Doncaster 0, Chester 1; Fulham 1, Lincoln 2; Hartlepool 2, Brighton 3; Hereford 1, Barnet 1; Hull 1, Cambridge United 3; Leyton Orient 1, Torquay 0; Mansfield 2, Scunthorpe 0; Rochdale 2, Exeter 0; Swansea 1, Northampton 0.

Scottish Premier Celtic 1, Aberdeen 0; Hearts 2, Dunfermline 0; Motherwell 1, Stirling Albion 3; Raith 2, Rangers 2. (played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, against, points)

Premier League Arsenal 12 7 4 1 24 10 24
Liverpool 10 7 2 1 20 8 23
Wimbledon 12 7 2 3 22 13 23
Chelsea 12 6 4 2 21 7 22
Man United 12 5 4 3 23 19 19
Aston Villa 12 5 3 4 15 11 18
Tottenham 12 5 2 5 12 11 17
Shef Wed 12 4 4 4 13 17 16
Everton 10 4 3 3 11 11 15
Derby 12 3 5 4 12 14 14
West Ham 12 4 2 6 11 16 14
Leicester 12 4 2 6 9 17 14
Shef Mon 12 3 4 5 21 17 13
Wbrough 11 3 4 4 16 18 13
Sunderland 12 3 4 5 9 14 13
Leeds 12 4 1 7 11 13 13
Nott Forest 12 1 5 6 10 20 8
Coventry 11 1 5 4 13 8 9
Blackburn 11 0 4 7 7 16 4

Erlich, Gabbai win nat'l tennis championships

EYAL Erlich and Limor Gabbai won the national tennis championships at Hadar Yosef on Friday, a first national title for both players.

Erlich, seeded third in the tournament, upset top seed Nir Welgreen in a close battle, winning 5-7, 6-2, 6-2.

Gabbai, also the underdog at second seed, surprised top seed Shiri Burstein with a straightforward 6-1, 6-3 win.

In the 17-years group, Rafi Tzidkiyahu defeated Andy Ram 3-6, 6-3, 6-2. Heather Chait

Kafelnikov to meet Enqvist in Paris Open final

PARIS (Reuters) - French Open champion Yevgeny Kafelnikov, on course to become the first player to hold France's two top tennis titles, meets Swede Thomas Enqvist in the Paris Open final today.

Fourth seed Kafelnikov recovered from one set down to beat qualifier Petr Korda 3-6, 6-4, 6-2 in yesterday's first semifinal.

Enqvist, the 12th seed, crushed compatriot Magnus Gustafsson who was suffering from a pulled leg muscle 6-3, 6-2.

The 28th-ranked Gustafsson, struggling with the muscle strain from the middle of the second set, saved three match points before going down in 67 minutes.

The first match hinged on the failure of Korda, coming back from a long injury layoff and now ranked 37, to convert three break points in the ninth game of the second set that would have enabled him up to score for the match.

The Russian, also holder of the Lyon title, went on to level the match with the first of three set points, the Czech driving the ball wide.

Kafelnikov never looked back after an early break in the deciding set but said afterwards he had to "play 150 percent" to beat Korda.

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Blue-chip stocks lower with bonds FTSE down 30.6 points

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

Key Representative Rates table with columns for currency and rate.

NEW STOCK MARKETS

New York market indexes table with columns for index name and change.

Other stock market indexes

Other stock market indexes table with columns for index name and change.

Israeli stocks in US

Israeli stocks in US table with columns for stock name and change.

AG Accounts

AG Accounts table with columns for account name and change.

INTL MONEY MARKETS

INTL MONEY MARKETS table with columns for market name and change.

Dollar crossrates (US)

Dollar crossrates (US) table with columns for currency and rate.

Labor rates

Labor rates table with columns for labor type and rate.

Foreign financial data courtesy of CommStock Trading Ltd.

Foreign financial data table with columns for country and data.

US commodities

US commodities table with columns for commodity name and price.

London commodities

London commodities table with columns for commodity name and price.

Spot market metals (US)

Spot market metals (US) table with columns for metal name and price.

New York metal futures

New York metal futures table with columns for metal name and price.

NEW YORK (AP) - Blue-chip stocks turned lower with bonds Friday as investors used the latest suggestions of noninflationary economic growth as an opportunity to secure profits before next week's elections.

On Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average surrendered an opening 28-point gain, dropping 7.45 points to close at 6,021.93 as interest rates rose in the bond market.

Broader measures were mixed, with the more speculative sectors outperforming blue-chip and other large-company issues.

Stocks started the day higher with bonds after the Labor Department reported that although businesses added 210,000 workers to their payrolls in October, helping to keep the unemployment rate steady at 5.2 percent, hourly wages did not increase.

A private research group, meanwhile, reported that its index of leading economic indicators edged up a tiny 0.1% in September, the smallest of eight consecutive advances.

Investors were heartened by the reports, which reinforced other recent signs that inflationary pressures such as strong consumer demand and rising production costs won't necessarily translate into big price increases.

If the Federal Reserve's policy makers agree with that assessment, they may continue to hold off on trying to contain inflation by slowing the economy with an increase in the central bank's key interest rates. Higher lending rates could hurt stocks by slowing revenues and profits.

But after Friday's early advance, many stock and bond traders trimmed their holdings to insulate some profits from any potential surprises in the elections.

NYSE volume totaled 463.78 million shares as of 4 p.m. (EDT), vs. 487.82 million in the previous session.

NEW YORK (AP) - The dollar ended mostly lower Friday, hurt by further strength in the British pound and a warning from treasury secretary Lloyd Bentsen that a more expensive US currency could hurt American exporters.

"Bentsen's comments started a sell-off," said Ricardo Gomes, managing director of foreign exchange at Republic National Bank in New York. "He may not be a spokesman for the government, but the market took it that way."

Rising interest in the Canadian dollar also hurt the dollar, drawing investor money into Canadian assets. The Canadian dollar is now at the highest level since Quebec voters narrowly defeated a secession referendum a year ago.

Traders said the slow of economic data released in the US, which pointed to a slowly growing economy with benign inflation, had no impact on foreign-currency dealings and were well within expectations.

A strong rally in the pound during Asian and European dealings was the initial reason for dollar weakness. The pound has been rallying since Wednesday when the British government raised interest rates to help thwart inflationary pressure in the economy. Britain is the only major industrialized nation where rates are clearly going up.

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LONDON - UK shares closed at their lowest levels for a month on Friday after the latest economic indicators failed to inspire investors who preferred to dwell on Wednesday's rate hike and a jittery performance in New York. The FTSE 100 index finished slightly off the day's worst levels. A fall of 73.9 on the week.

FRANKFURT - German shares ended thin bourse dealings on Friday higher with strong gains, helped by overnight gains on Wall Street and firmer German debt prices. The 30-share DAX index ended bourse trade up 24 points to 2,683.25, up 9.3 from last Friday. In post-bourse trade the DAX was down 1.21 at 2,670.19.

ZURICH - Swiss shares ended firmer but below the highs reached after the release of US jobs data during the second half of the session. The firmer tendency in the US dollar and the German mark buoyed industrials. The broad SPI was up 8.73 points to 2,402.78, a drop of 10.42 from last week.

TOKYO - Tokyo stocks regained their feet by the end of the Friday session with help from futures-linked trade in the afternoon. However, a wait-and-see mood hung heavily over the market ahead of the long weekend. The key Nikkei 225 ended 166.20 points, or 0.81 percent, higher at 20,633.06. Falling 106.91 points from last week.

HONG KONG - Hong Kong's Hang Seng index ended at a record closing high on Friday, as investors cheered an overnight fall in the US long bond yield following the release of friendly US economic data. The Hang Seng index closed 51.71 points higher at a record close of 12,529.27. The previous record close was 12,510.05 reached on October 18. Up 140.89 on the week.

SYDNEY - Australian shares finished weaker on Friday ahead of a key US payroll report later on Friday and after a choppy session which saw the All Ordinaries index trade in 20 point range around Thursday's close. The key index closed 10.8 points lower at 2,339.4 after touching an intraday high of 2,357.1. Up 4.2 from a week ago.

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MUTUAL FUNDS

Flexible

Mutual Funds Flexible table with columns for fund name, unit cost, redemption price, monthly yield, and total return.

Shares

Mutual Funds Shares table with columns for fund name, unit cost, redemption price, monthly yield, and total return.

State Bonds

Mutual Funds State Bonds table with columns for fund name, unit cost, redemption price, monthly yield, and total return.

Company Bonds

Mutual Funds Company Bonds table with columns for fund name, unit cost, redemption price, monthly yield, and total return.

Foreign Currency

Mutual Funds Foreign Currency table with columns for fund name, unit cost, redemption price, monthly yield, and total return.

Mixed

Mutual Funds Mixed table with columns for fund name, unit cost, redemption price, monthly yield, and total return.

ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS

ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS table with columns for currency type and deposit rate.

CHECKS AND TRANSFERS

CHECKS AND TRANSFERS table with columns for instrument type and rate.

INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES

INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES table with columns for stock name, price, and change.

SOURCE: METAVI Ltd - Managers of Mutual Funds and Security Investments. DATE: 30-10-96

Korman charged with manslaughter

HADAR Betar security officer Nahum Korman was indicted for manslaughter by the Jerusalem District Attorney's Office on Friday, for beating to death 11-year-old Hilmi Shoushi last Sunday.

According to the charge sheet, Korman entered Husan village in his settlement's security jeep with the aim of detaining youths who, according to reports he had received earlier, had stoned a car.

As he was driving through the village, he began chasing Shoushi and two of his cousins, aged 12 and 15. After pursuing them for about 30 meters, he stopped the jeep, got out of it with his pistol drawn, and ran towards Shoushi, who was standing near one of the houses.

The indictment states that Korman approached the boy and hit and kicked him in the head. As a result of the kick, Shoushi fell onto his back and while he was lying on the ground Korman put his foot on his neck and hit him on the head with his pistol butt.

As a result of the beating, Shoushi lost consciousness, then stopped breathing. After several women villagers intervened, an ambulance was summoned; but Shoushi died on the operating table at Jerusalem's Hadassah-University Hospital in Ein Kerem.

An autopsy was performed with a Palestinian doctor in attendance, at the demand of the Shoushi family. It found that the boy had died of a brain hemorrhage following the blows to his head, which had torn the spinal artery, causing internal bleeding.

Korman was brought to Jerusalem District Court on Friday morning for the reading of

the indictment. The district attorney asked the court to remand him until the conclusion of proceedings against him, but the judge deferred a ruling until this morning. Prosecutors said they plan to call 23 witnesses in the case.

Korman did not speak with the press when he arrived at the courthouse, but an interview in that morning's *Yedioth Aharonot* quoted him as saying: "Not only didn't I kill the boy, but I did the utmost to save his life. I tried to resuscitate him and called an ambulance. I feel humiliated. My greatest pain, of course is that the boy died."

Outside the courthouse a small group of women demonstrated as Korman arrived. One of the signs they carried quoted from Bialik: "The devil has not created revenge for the blood of a small child."

Korman's brother, Ya'acov, complained that they were declaring him guilty without a trial. He said his brother's own children had been stoned, adding, "I believe in my brother's goodness."

Yesterday some 250 people, including Israeli and Palestinian legislators, gathered in Husan to hold a memorial service for Shoushi. Signs saying "Settlements are time bombs for peace," and "Hilmi your blood was not spilled in vain" were hung among Palestinian flags and pictures of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

Clarification: Friday's report on this story mistakenly quoted Justice Ministry and Jerusalem District Attorney's Office sources as saying Korman would be charged with murder. (Itim)



Manslaughter suspect Nahum Korman holds his father's hand as he is led by a policeman into Jerusalem District Court on Friday. Korman is suspected of beating to death 11-year-old Hilmi Shoushi last Sunday. (AP)

Lederman remanded until end of trial

YISRAEL Lederman, indicted for deliberately flinging hot tea at Labor MK Yael Dayan, was remanded until the end of trial on Friday by Jerusalem Magistrate's Court.

Lederman plans to appeal the decision, his lawyer Naftali Werzberger said.

Two weeks ago, when the Knesset Committee on the Status of Women, which Dayan heads, was touring Hebron, Lederman approached the MKs, attracted Dayan's attention and allegedly flung a cup of hot tea at her, giving her second degree burns on her neck

and chest. Lederman says he was pushed and accidentally spilled the tea.

After analyzing Channel 2 footage of the incident, Judge Shimon Fineberg said it did not appear that Lederman had been pushed.

Fineberg also said Lederman is a "dangerous man" who had repeatedly violated the law to promote his ideology, despite the actions taken against him.

Lederman, who is affiliated with the extremist Kach group, served three years of a 20-year sentence for murdering a Palestinian

in 1978.

Fineberg said the evidence against Lederman and the risk of him taking additional extremist acts, given the political friction in Hebron, justified the prosecution's request for a remand until the end of trial.

Dayan and Meretz MK Naomi Chazan, who had been standing with Dayan when the tea was thrown, attended the hearing on Friday, after the court rejected Werzberger's request to have them removed from the room. (Itim)

WEATHER

Jerusalem 14-19
Tel Aviv 17-25
Haifa 16-24
Tiberias 15-26
Abba 19-25
Samarra 10-20
Beersheba 19-25
Eilat 17-29
Dead Sea 18-30

Forecast: Partly cloudy to clear.

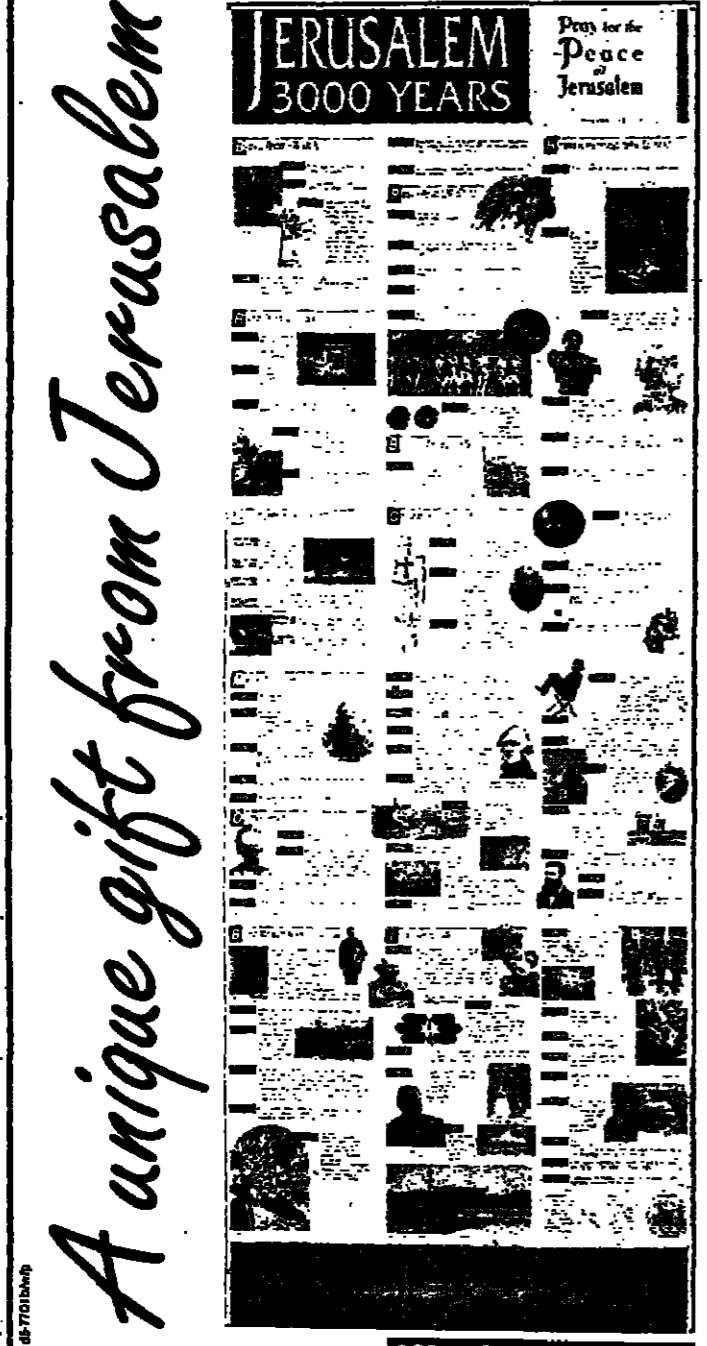
AROUND THE WORLD

Location	Low	High	Wind	Cloud	Remarks
Alexandria	16	22	10	partly	clear
Bahia	18	24	12	partly	clear
Buenos Aires	12	18	15	partly	clear
Chengde	8	14	10	partly	clear
Chongqing	10	16	12	partly	clear
Hong Kong	18	24	15	partly	clear
London	10	16	12	partly	clear
Los Angeles	16	22	10	partly	clear
Madrid	14	20	10	partly	clear
Moscow	6	12	10	partly	clear
New York	12	18	15	partly	clear
Paris	10	16	12	partly	clear
Rome	12	18	10	partly	clear
Sydney	18	24	15	partly	clear
Tokyo	10	16	12	partly	clear
Yokohama	10	16	12	partly	clear
Zurich	8	14	10	partly	clear

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Swiss reject calls for 'truth commission'

ZURICH (Reuters) - Switzerland rejected on Friday calls by US Senator Alfonse D'Amato and the Los Angeles-based Simon Wiesenthal Center for an independent "truth commission" to probe Switzerland's wartime role as a financial center.

The head of the Senate Banking Committee and the Wiesenthal Center are both investigating Switzerland's wartime commercial links with the Nazis and the fate of dormant assets put in Switzerland by Holocaust victims.

"It is known that Switzerland will use an independent investigative commission to clear up unresolved questions about assets placed in Switzerland as a result of Nazi tyranny," said Thomas Borer, head of an official Swiss task force on the issue.

Borer has also appointed two historians to check whether such dormant assets were used to compensate Swiss citizens for nationalized property under compensation treaties Switzerland struck with Eastern European countries.

Borer brushed off the Wiesenthal Center's call for creating an independent panel to probe Switzerland's past along the lines of the "truth commission" in South Africa investigating injustices committed during that country's apartheid era.

Swiss banks have apparently

made progress in tracking down some missing funds.

Banking ombudsman Hanspeter Haeni on Friday called a news conference for November 12 to discuss the status of the search he is coordinating on behalf of some 1,000 claimants seeking assets their relatives may have put in Swiss banks.

He declined to give any details, but referred to his previous comment that he was "convinced we can prove that the search process works."

The World Jewish Congress last week dismissed Haeni's effort to find the assets of Holocaust victims as a "cruel farce" and said not a single penny has been returned to survivors or their relatives after a year-long probe.

A US lawsuit by Holocaust survivors seeks \$20 billion in assets, a figure Swiss officials dismiss as wildly exaggerated.

Haeni said he had circulated three lists to banks in May, July and September that contained the names of hundreds of potential account holders. Banks then had two months to search their records. If they found a match, they could turn to Haeni's office to get forms filled out by applicants.

It was then up to banks to contact claimants. If Haeni did not hear back from banks, he informed claimants of this "negative information."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Report: Bikers terrorize TA boulevard
Hundreds of motorcyclists have taken to gather each Thursday night on Tel Aviv's Sderot Rokah, which they block while holding impromptu races and daredevil riding competitions, according to Gali Zahal radio. Police have so far been unable to stop the practice, the radio said. (Itim)

Soccer player arrested for theft
A 29-year-old soccer player was arrested on Friday in Yavne on suspicion of stealing goods from the town's Hyperpool branch over the past six months, during which some NIS 150,000 in goods were stolen from the branch.

The supermarket manager recently installed a closed-circuit camera in the store. On Friday, the suspect, who comes to the store as a drink company representative, was seen putting packages of underwear into his coat. He then left the store, came back and allegedly took additional goods. When he went out to his car, the store manager confronted him and searched the car, finding goods valued at tens of thousands of shekels. Police arrested the suspect, who confessed to the theft and other thefts from the store. (Itim)

Agriculture Ministry to invest in Beit She'an
The Agriculture Ministry will invest \$7 million in building greenhouses in Beit She'an in a bid to provide livelihood for the factory workers which Kitan recently fired, Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan said over the weekend. The greenhouses will cover 150 dunams and be used to raise flowers, herbs and vegetables for export. The project will begin this week. (Itim)

Woman remanded for attempted murder
Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court remanded a 66-year-old Holon woman for five days on Friday, after she allegedly attempted to murder her father, 96, and commit suicide earlier in the day. The hearing was held at the Wolfson Medical Center, where the woman and her father were being treated for gas inhalation. The father was lightly injured and has already been released from the hospital.

The incident apparently occurred after the woman had an argument with her sisters, who wanted to put their father in a nursing home and sell the apartment their sister was sharing with him. (Itim)

Convict on work leave murdered in Ramat Gan

A CONVICT who left prison to go to work in a garage was murdered Friday morning in Ramat Gan by a gunman who shot him five times before escaping in a getaway car.

The man, Erez Vishinsky, 30, of Even Yehuda, a trustee of the minimum-security

Ma'asiyahu Prison, worked in a garage in south Tel Aviv. He arrived at around 7 a.m. Friday at Ramat Gan's Rehov Hanegba to get his motorcycle, which he used to reach work.

A witness said a masked man shot Vishinsky and then escaped in a waiting car. The witness

reported part of the car's license plate number. Police said the man had been serving a sentence for drug dealing, drug smuggling, and blackmail.

A Magen David Adom team pronounced him dead at the scene. (Itim)

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